A SHORT MEMORIAL OF THE Sufferings AND Grievances, PAST and PRESENT OF THE PRESBYTERIANS IN SCOTLAND:

Particularly of those of them called by Nick-name

Cameronians.

Printed in the Year, 1690.

BRITISH MUSEUM

TO THE READER

IT *is not needful in the entry to give a Deduction, either of the Excellent Eſtabliſhments of Religion and Civil Liberties, and* Proviſions *made for ſecurity of both, that our Fathers obtained and Enjoyed, by the* Mercy of GOD, *under the* Patrociny *of Righteous Rulers; Or of the deplorable Demoliſhments of theſe Invaluable Intereſts, ſince the unhappy Re-introduction of* Prelacy *and* Tyranny, *which brought* Poperie *to the very Birth in this Land, had it not pleaſed the Moſt* High GOD, *by the interpoſition of the preſent* King, *as an Inſtrument, to make it abortive. But it is very uſeful and pleaſant, to remember that the* Reformation of the Church of Scotland, *was ſometimes as far Celebrated among all the Churches, as now it is Depreciated in contempt and Obſcurity: Among other peculiar Eminencies of it above many other Churches, ſhe had this very early for the ſubject of her Gloriation, through Grace; that at once and from the Beginning, both, Doctrine, Worſhip, Diſcipline and Government were Reformed, according to the Pattern of the Inſtitutions of Chriſt, to that degree of Purity, that our very firſt* Reformers *could aſſert, to the praiſe of Grace, that no Corruption was left in this Church, that ever flowed from the* Man of Sin. *Which, through the Bleſſing of GOD upon the Faithful and earneſt Labours and Wreſtlings of His Servants in the Miniſtry, made ſuch progreſs in a ſhort time; that not only the* Doctrine *was perfectly purged of the Leaven of* Popery, Arminianiſme, Socinianiſme &c. *and all other* Hereſies; *the* Worſhip, *of all Idolatry and Superſtition: but the* Diſcipline *was impartially exerciſed, and the* Government *Reformed from* Dioceſan Prelacy, Sectarian *Confuſions, and* Eraſtian *Supremacy of the Civil Powers, and framed in the neareſt Conformity to the Primitive Apoſtolick Pattern, according to the Word of GOD, and example of the beſt Reformed Churches, in the* Presbyterial *Order, of* Congregational, Claſſical, Synodical, *and* National *Aſſemblies. In the Preſervation and Obſervation of which Beautiful Order, making our Church Beautiful as* Tirzah, *Comely as* Jeruſalem, *Terrible as an* Army with Banners. *This was alſo her Priviledge and Praiſe, which is the Fruit of this Government whereſoever it hath Place, that ſhe was Once and for a long time, as much admired for* Union,

as of late for Divisions since these Corruptions made a Breach upon Us: Her Name was once called Philadelphia among all the Reformed Churches; and it was long since attested at that unhappy Convention at Perth, which attempted the Introduction of some Popish Novations, in the Year 1618. That from that backward, to the Year 1558. there had been neither Schisme nor Heresie in this Church; as also from thence forward, the same might have been said, excepting the Contentions which the Prelates and Malignants occasioned, until the fatal Catastrophe. No Church on Earth had more Purity, Order, or Unity, and was freer of Corruption, Defection and Division, than this Church. This our Renowned Reformation in Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government, as it was Founded on the Law and the Testimony of the GOD of Heaven; so it was Confirmed by all the Sanctions, Ratifications and Securities, that any Right can be capable of among Men: Not only by many Laws, penal, and Statutory, Established as Bulwarks, for Preserving and Defending it against all the forementioned Adversaries; by many Constitutions and Acts of General Assemblies, ratified by Parliaments: But by many, again and again Renewed National and Solemn Covenants, sworn to the most High GOD by all Ranks, from the King to the Beggar, in all Capacities and Conditions. This Testimony, for this Covenanted Reformation, so Confirmed and Established; as it hath been Transmitted to Us, through a long continued Tract of many Wrestlings and Sufferings, from our worthy Ancestors, and Sealed by much Precious Blood and the Bonds and Bondage of many Faithful Martyrs and Confessors of Christ, adhering to the same in our day; so, as it was then and now Stated and Sealed, hath been and is thought by all the Asserters of our Reformation, to have such a near and clear Connexion with the great Concern of the Crown-Prerogatives, and Imperial Dignities of the Prince of the Kings of the Earth, as Head of His visible Kingdom, whose incommunicable Glory it is, without Competitor or Co-partner, either Coordinate or Subordinate, to Institute his own Government, prescribe His own Laws, appoint his own Ordinances (which He will have observed without addition, dimunition or alteration, until His second coming) and to constitute His own Officers, Cloathed only with His Authority, and to be regulated only by His Instructions in their Ministerial Function without any Dependence on, Subordination to, or Indulgence from any Man or Angel, in the exercise thereof, under their Master Christ alone; to whom it belongs as properly to Rule the Church his own free Kingdom, according to the good pleasure of His own Will, as it belongs to Him to save his Church by the Merit of his own Sufferings; that our Famous Fathers, and such of their Children as have been faithful in following their footsteps, have judged it a Testimony worthy to Sacrifice all their Interests upon,

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in opposing and contending against all the Invasions and Usurpations made upon these Prerogatives of Christ, and Priviledges of His Church, by Poperie Prelacy, *and* Erastian Supremacy, *all condemned in the Law of GOD, discharged by the Laws of the Land, and Abjured in our* Covenants National and Solemn League; *As being highly derogatorie to the Glory of Christ, contradictory to His revealed will, offensive to His People, obstructive to the Power, and destructive to the peace, purity and Liberty of His precious Gospel.*

Now for adhering to this complex Testimony, *what have been the Sufferings and Grievances of* Presbyterians *in general, and ours in particular since* Anno 1660: *from the* Popish Prelatical *and* Malignant Party, *is more fully demonstrated, (with the Principles and Testimonie contended for by us vindicated) in* Naphtali, Jus populi, the Hind let loose, *our* Informatory Vindication, *&* the Testimony against the Toleration, *given in by that faithful & zealous Minister of* Christ, Mr. James Renwick; *and here summarly Remonstrated. We had once a Resolution, at the first appearance of the* Prince of Orange; *who, under GOD, was the Honoured Instrument of our begun enlargement from them, To have Addressed his* Highness *with this same* Memorial: *But that failing, after this long suspence in expectation of some Redress of Grievances, whereof we and many others have been in a great measure disappointed; We have been induced to publish it in this Juncture, with an* Appendix *of our present complaints of somethings that we understand to be wrong in the* Church, State, Army *and* Country, *at the time of the writing thereof; which was in the time, and upon occasion of the many Adjournments of* Parliament: *Wherein perhaps something will occur, which may seem obliquely to reflect upon the Government, whom we complain of the ill Administrations of many Malignants in power: But as they are sad Truths which cannot be denyed, and tho we may be charged with Imprudence in speaking so freely what many Thousands, and those of the surest Friends the Government hath, do think: So, however we be neither Politicians nor Flatterers, we think Conscience and Loyalty both, doth oblige us to speak what concerns the King and Country both to hear. We do not blame the King for delaying the satisfaction that his People have long waited for, further than for permitting some into Trust, who have abused him with misinformations of what they waited for, and with counsels to delay their satisfaction. Nor are we jealous of his Majesties sincere intentions to perform what he hath promised, and the Estates Demanded, as necessary for settling the Church, securing Laws, restoring Liberties, and Redressing Grievances; Albeit many here complained of, have laboured to suggest grounds of such Jealousie. We have got already so much Advantage by the success of his Heroick Expedition; And so many repeated*

peated Assurances of his Royal Resolutions to fulfill his Declaration *and* Promises *to our satisfaction; none of which we can charge him with the breach of, tho many of them are not yet accomplished; that we should be very unworthy to Jealouse his Integrity. We consider his* Majestie, *stated in very Difficult and Dangerous Circumstances, since he interposed himself in our Gap, between an angry God and a sinful Provocking People; Wherein he hath to do with a potent Enemy without, and many undermyning Enemies about his Hand, seeking to ensnare him in sin and expose him to ruine; and hath in his two* Kingdoms *of* Britain *People of different Interests and Inclinations, whom to Govern will require great deliberation, and consequently occasion delayes: But we lay the blame where it should lye, on the Malignants at* Court, Council *and* Parliament, *who are seeking to betray him and us both. If some of these be exposed, and their old pranks discovered, and the Grievous effects of their being so much in Power hinted at; We hope the Candid Reader will think it no ill service either to King or Country.*

ERRATA

Reader before thou peruse these Sheets be pleased to help these Escapes of the PRESS *(omitting these of less Note)* Page 15. Line 34. Read *encouraged.* P. 17. 19. R. *superadded by* L. 25. R. *equaling.* P. 34. *Col.* 1. 9. R. 21 *Men and* 5 *Women.* P. 35 *Col.* 2. L. 11. *for* Douglas R. Dundass. P. 36. *Col.* 1. L 5 *for* Mouat R. Mcwze. *Col.* 2. L. 20 R. Dundass, *and* L. 26. R. Dundass. P. 39. L. 36. *for Orders* R. Order. P. 48. L. 18. R. *flowing.*

A SHORT MEMORIAL OF THE GRIEVANCES and SUFFERINGS Of the PRESBYTERIANS in SCOTLAND.

Since the Year 1660.

Particularly of those of them called CAMERONIANS.

AFTER King *Charles* returned from his Exile, the first Device, which the *Malignants* then advanced to the highest places of Trust fell upon, for overturning our Religion, Laws, and Liberties, was to prevent and obstruct all access either to Justice or Mercy for such as they had a mind to destroy, and preclude all Applications for a Redress of Grievances. Hence, when some faithful Ministers were drawing up a Monitory Supplication to the King, congratulating his Return, and minding him of his Covenant Engagements and promises to promote and preserve the work of Reformation; the Committee of States then siting, caused apprehend, and without hearing incarcerate them, for no other cause but that Supplication: against which at that time there was no Law; and which all Law and Reason of the World will justifie, as the most innocent expedient of getting their just complaints heard and redressed, and the common priviledge of all men, which slavery it self cannot take away. Yet as all Men, and they themselves, could not but see this a manifest subverting of the Subjects Liberty: So, in procureing a Law to approve it afterwards, they made it worse and more illegal, in declaring Petitions to be unlawful and seditious, *Carol.* 2. *Parl.* 2. *Sess.* 2. *Act* 2. Hence no Petition or Remonstrance of publick Grievances, Oppressing, and enslaving Church or Nation, either

Grievance 1.

durſt be offered, or could find Acceſs or Acceptance, being interdicted and alſo puniſhed very ſeverely; as in the inſtance of the Grievances given in againſt *Lauderdale*. Nor durſt Priſoners tender the moſt innocent Supplication, even for releale or a more eaſie Confinement, in any terms that ſeemed either to reflect on their ſeverity, or repreſent the illegality of their proſecutions, or in the leaſt to vindicate the cauſe they were ſuffering for; which cauſed many afterwards to decline all petitioning, and chooſe rather to ly under the moſt unſupportable bondage, for fear of having it made more miſerable.

Grievance 2. The next ſucceeding Devices, to undermine and overturn our Religion and Liberty, were the Miſchiefs framed into Law by the *firſt Seſſion of the firſt Parl: Charles 2.* held by the Earl of *Middletoun* 1661. Wherein by the very firſt Act thereof, all the Members were involved in a Conſcience Enſnaring and Enſlaving Oath of *Abſolute* and *Implicite Allegiance* and *Supremacy*, (without the former uſual Limitations then ſtanding unrepealed) not only wronging Parliaments in their Priviledges, and the Church in her Liberties, but the Lord Jeſus Chriſt in his Prerogative of Supremacy, and Headſhip over the Church; making the King a Pope, and not only a Church Member (as a Magiſtrate) or Church Officer, but the *Supreme Architectonick Head of the Church.* For refuſing this afterwards, many Miniſters and others were baniſhed; ſeveral of them made to ſubſcribe a Bond to remove out of all his Majeſties Dominions within a moneth, not to return under the pain of Death; And many kept in priſon by the Arbitrary Power of the Council, beſide the tenor and extent of their own wicked Act thereupon.

Grievance 3. In the following Acts of that ſame Seſſion of Parliament, they advanced the Kings *Prerogative* to the higheſt pitch of *Abſolutneſs:* and the acknowledgement of this vaſt and unlimited prerogative, in all particulars, was formed and impoſed, *Charl: 2: Parl: 1. Seſſ. 1. Act 2, 3, 4, 5, 11.* This was the foundation of all the ſucceeding Tyranny, and ſource of the Nations ſlavery; and in it ſelf a head of ſufferings to ſeveral Gentlemen and others, who could not in Conſcience ſubſcribe or make that acknowledgement of ſuch a *prerogative*; which would manifeſtly have imported an approving of the firſt audacious and preſumptuous effect and attempt of its power, exerted in reſcinding and annulling at one blow all the Righteous and Legal Eſtabliſhments of the *Covenanted Reformation*, and all the Acts made in favours thereof

thereof in all the Parliaments and Conventions of Estates from the year 1640. to 1650. even those that the then King *Charles* 1. approved, owned, and called.

They rested not here, in a general or gradual unhinging of Legal Constitutions, made for security of our Religion and Liberty; but then took advantage of the universal silent Submission of the Nation, to break down at once the carved work of the whole Fabrick of the Reformation as with Axes and Hammers, in that insolent effrontry and indignity against Heaven, in making void the *National and Solemn League and Covenants:* which the Church and State both in their Representatives and Members, did most solemnly Swear and Subscrive, for themselves and Posterity: which, for the matter of them perpetually obliging, for the manner so Religiously engaged into, and for their ends so Glorious, no power on Earth can dispense with, disannull, or disable: which not only the Lord from Heaven did ratify, by the Conversion of many Thousands, and vouchsafing his presence gracious in Ordinances and propitious in Providences at the subscriving of them; But in this Land, at the Inauguration of the King *Charles* 2. (being the condition upon which he was admitted to the Government) the latter of these Covenants was Ratified and Established, as the great fundamental Law of the Kingdom, whereon all the Rights and Priviledges either of King or People are principally bottomed and secured, and as the very *Magna Charta* of our Reformation. Yet this not only they did break in Heaven-daring boldness; but to flatter the King in making way for *Prelacy*, *Tyranny*, and *Popery*, and to indulge the licentiousness of some debauched Nobles, who could not endure the Yoke of *Christs* Government according to his Institutions there Covenanted to be preserved; they enacted and declared, it should have no Obligation or binding Force any farther; and that none should henceforth require the renewing of it *Carol.* 2. *Parl.* 1. *Sess.* 1. *Act.* 7. And afterwards, that the *National Covenant* and *Solemn League and Covenant* were in themselves Unlawful Oaths: and therefore annulled all Acts and Constitutions Ecclesiastical or Civil approving them, *Parl.* 1. *Sess* 2. *Act.* 2. And not only so but in contempt of Heaven, they caused burn them by the hand of the Hangman. For adhering unto these Sacred, Inviolable, and Indispensible Engagements, the sufferings of *Presbyterians* have in a great measure been stated since that time. *Grievance* 4.

The next wicked project was, to remove out of the way all who were *Grievance* 5.

were eminent Instruments, in promoting that work of Reformation now about to be razed, and whom they feared would obstruct their Antichristian and Tyrannical designs, both in the State and in the Church. Accordingly the Noble Marquess of *Argyle* was beheaded for no other alledged cause but for his complyance with the *English*, when they had made a Conquest of our Land, Wherein also the Judges that condemned him were *Sworn Criminals*. And afterwards, the Lord *Warriston* upon the same pretence: And for the same pretended cause, many other Gentlemen, above 200. were Arbitrarly and Exorbitantly fined; some under divers Stiles twice over. Such of the Ministry also as had been most faithful & fervent for the interests of their Master and of his Church were cruelly and most illegally removed; some by Death, as famous Mr. *Guthrie*, for asserting the Kingly Prerogative of Christ in opposition to the *Erastian Supremacy* encroaching thereupon; others by Banishment, for giving faithful warning, and protesting against the defection of that time, thereby only contravening a wicked Proclamation discharging them to speak against the Proceedings of the State; others *Indicta causa*, without access to give in their defences, or to get so much as an extract of their sentence.

Grievances 6. After they had thus prepared their way, by the very first Act of the second *Sess of the first Parl. anno* 1662. They reestablished and reintegrated their *Dagon* of Episcopal *Prelacy*, with all its inseparably concomitant retinue of Pride, Perjury, Simony, Sacriledge, and intollerable Usurpations and Corruptions; And wreathed again about our Neck that Yoke which neither our Fathers, who wrestled much against it, nor we were nor ever shall be able to bear: which as it is insupportable to, and hated of all the Godly (and desirable to none, but dissolute & debauched Persons, who cannot endure Christs discipline impartially exercised, and do find incouragement under the wings of *Prelacy*) being in its original both the Mother and Daughter, Root and Off-spring, Cause and Effect of *Popery*; a device which advanced the Man of Sin to his hight in the World, and the only remaining support of his hopes of recovering these Kingdoms, by Christs conquest rescued from his Tyranny; in its nature, evidently eversive of the very nature of *Gospel Church Government*; in its ends only adapted to bring the Church into a slavish dependence on & subordination to an usurped Supremacy of the Magistrate, which is a change only of the *Pope* not of the Popedom; And in its effects, alwayes found to be most

most deplorably destructive to the purity and power of Religion, and peace of its sincere profession, and that which hath introduced and encouraged Impiety, Error, Schism, and Persecution in these Lands: So by all the sober and judicious that have known the Case of this Church and Kingdom it hath been acknowledged to be the source and spring of all our Sorrows and Grievances under which we have groaned these 28 Years. This abjured *Prelacy*, as it was introduced by manifest Perjury and Perfidy, so it was at first erected and hitherto advanced and supported on such a Foundation, as might bear out and justify the Contrivers and Promoters of it, as well in all attempts to set up *Popery* it self: the Act establishing it 'Declaring, the disposal of the 'Government of the Church doth properly belong to his Majesty as an 'inherent Right of the Crown, by vertue of his Royal Prerogative 'and Supremacy in causes Ecclesiastick; An usurpation upon the Kingdom of Christ equivalent to any that ever the *Papacy* it self durst aspire unto over the Government of the Church. The first effect whereof was by another Act 1 *Sess.* 2 *Parl. Carol.* 2. 'the restoring the old 'exploded bondage of Patronages; another old Relict of *Popish* Slavery, depriving the Church of the freedom of Calling and Choosing their own Pastors: And dispossessing all the Ministers, who entered since the Year 1649. of their Churches and Benefices, possessed without the presentations of *Patrons* After which, by the instigation of the *Prelates*, the Council passed an Act *October* 1662, whereby above 300 Ministers were violently put out of their Charges, and their Congregations laid desolate, without all Legal Procedure, without either Accusation or Citation, Conviction or Sentence, or a hearing allowed to them. And therefore for *simple Nonconformity*, and refusing subjection to and taking Collations from the *Prelates*, the rest of the Ministers, in great numbers, were, with cruelty more beseeming *Turks*, thrust from their Labours and banished, with a nice and strange confinement; 20 Miles from their own Parish Church, Six Miles from a Cathedral, and three Miles from a Burgh. In whose room succeeded, a swarm of Ignorant and Scandalous Apostates, the *Prelates* and their *Mercenary* Substitutes the *Curats*: against whom such Charges might alwayes have been adduced, and to this day such Accusations are in readiness to be produced, to any competent Judicatories, that shall be called to connosce upon them, of the pernicious Errors of *Popery*, *Socinianisme*, and *Arminianisme* maintained by many of them, Abominable Adulteries committed by others of them, the Profanity, Sensuality,

and

ty, and Debauchery, Oppreſſion and Perſecution of Godlineſs and good Men chargeable on the generallity of them, and Perjury in breach of *Covenant*, and *Schiſmatical intruſion* without conſent of the Church owned of all of them, and Ungodlineſs by them transfuſed over all the Land; as could not but make them deteſted of all, as the greateſt ſtain to be ſuffered in a *Reformed Church*.

Grievance 7. Upon the back of this, by the inſtigation of the *Prelates*, who ſcorned to be undone, no not by *Julian* the Apoſtate, in ſurpreſſing Religion, they proceeded to poyſon all the Seminaries of Learning: Ordaining, in *Act. 9. Seſſ. 2. Parl. 1. Carol. 2.* 'That none be Maſters 'in any Univerſity, except they both take the Oath of Supremacy, 'and ſubmit to and own Prelacy; or be ſo much as a Pedagogue to 'Children, without the Prelates Licence. By which courſe Honeſt and Learned Men were brought to conſiderable Straits and Sufferings; and Ungodly and Unſound Maſters had acceſs and encouragement, to corrupt the Youth with perverſe and Malignant Principles, to the great and obſervable Detriment and Decrement of Religion, Learning, Sobriety, and Morality in the Nation.

Grievance 8. The next Contrivance was, to corrupt all the Fountains of Judicature. And for this End it was enacted, *Act 5. Seſſ. 2. Parl. 1. Carol. 2. That all Perſons, in any publick Truſt or Office whatſoever, ſhould ſubſcribe the Declaration, renouncing and abjuring the Covenants*; And that not only under the Certified penalty of *Forefaulting the Priviledges of Magiſtrates*; But alſo of all the *Priviledges of Merchandizing, Trading, and others, belonging to a Burgeſs, Act 3. Seſſ. 3. Parl 1. Carol. 2.* Whereby Perjury was made the chief and indiſpenſable Qualification, and *Conditio ſine qua non* of all that were capable of Exerciſing any power in Church or State; contrare to known Laws yet unrepealed, which make them that are guilty of Perjury, incapable of being intruſted with any publick Adminiſtration in the Kingdom.

Grievance 9. The Parliaments thus corrupted, and inſtigated by the *Biſhops* and *Curates*, Eſtabliſh wicked Laws preſſing Conformity. And in the very firſt of them, made ſuch a ſtreach, beyond all bounds of Charity, Juſtice, Reaſon, or Humanity, that they made all Addreſſes to God or Man, remonſtrating ſuch Grievances and reflecting on ſuch proceedings to be Criminal, *Declaring Petitions to be Seditious*, And *diſcharging all Writing, Printing, Remonſtrating, Praying, or Preaching, ſhewing any diſlike of the Kings Abſolute Prerogative and Supremacy in Cauſes Eccleſiaſtick*,

astick, or of the Government of the Church by Bishops, Act 2. Sess. 2. Par. 1. Carol. 2. And *Act 4 ibid.* They not only prohibited any to Preach in publick, or so much as in Families without the *Prelates* Licences but Discharged all Private Meetings in Houses for Religious Exercise, of such as could not in Conscience give their Countenance to the *Curats* Service in Churches.

Then in the 3 *Sess. Act.* 2. They Declare, that all Non conformed Ministers, that shall presume to Exercise their Ministry, shall be punished as Seditious Persons: And Require of all, in acknowledgement of and Complyance with his Majesties Government Ecclesiastical, that they give their concurrence and countenance to the *Curates*, and attend their Meetings for Worship: Ordaining, that whosoever shall withdraw, shall incur, each Nobleman, Gentleman, or Heretor, the loss of a fourth part of their Years rent, every Yeoman the loss of a fourth or under of his Moveables, each Burgess the loss of his Burge ship, with the fourth of his Moveables, with a reference to the Council, for farther punishment, and more effectual Execution: Which the Council very vigorously Prosecuted, in emitting most rigorous Proclamations after that: Some requiring all to keep their Parioch Churches under the pain of 20. *shil. toties quoties*; Some discharging all Preaching, Praying, or Hearing in Families, where three or some more then the *Domesticks* were found, as unlawful *Conventicles*; Others Certifying, that all such Meetings, not Authorised, shall be punished by Pecunial and Corporal pains, at the Arbittement of the Council; Others Commanding all Masters of Families, Heretors, Landlords, and Magistrates of Burghs, to cause their Servants, Dependents, Tennents, Taxmen, Cottars, and all under their Charge, to submit and conform to the *Curates* their Ministry. *Grievance 10.*

For putting these Laws in Execution, the King erected a *High Commission Court*; consisting of some Prelates, Noblemen, Magistrates of Burghs, and some Souldiers, impowered, by vertue of his Prerogative Royal and Supremacy, to suspend, deprive, and Excommunicat, As also to punish by Fining, Confining, and Incarcerating, all keepers of Conventicles, and all Non Conformists: A Hotch-potch mongrel Monster of a Judicatory, Authorized by the Prerogative against the Laws of GOD and Man, meddling with Causes and Censures Ecclesiastick and Civil, most Illegal and Arbitrary, both for its Con- *Grievance 11.*

Constitution and Procedure: Whereby persons brought before them were made to answer *super inquirendis*, contrare to expreſs ſtanding Law *Jac. 6. Parl.* 10. *Act* 13. *Anno* 1585. without either Libel or Accuſer, or admitting Legal Defences except they take the Oaths; and ſentenced with Stigmatizing, Scourging, Baniſhment, Deportation and Slaverie to *Barbados*, &c. By orders from this Court, eſpecially from the *Prelates*, whole country ſides were in a great meaſure Depopulate for Non-conformity, by Souldiers; Sometimes beſetting the Churches, where honeſt Miniſters were not yet ejected, and forcing all within to pay fines; Sometimes going to the *Curates* Churches, and Amerciating all the Abſents in ſuch fines as they pleaſed; Sometimes by force driving all to Church, beating, wounding, and binding the Recuſants; Sometimes exacting exorbitant fines by Plunder, to the Haraſſing and making Havock of whole Country ſides; ſparing ſometimes Complyers no more then Recuſants; And puniſhing Husbands for their Wives, Parents for their Children; Yea doubling and tripling the ſame exactions after payment; yet compelling them ſometimes, to ſubſcribe an acknowledgement that the Captain had uſed them civilly and diſcreetly; Then after all, Apprehending, Impriſoning, Scourging ſome, Stigmatizing others, and ſending them to Forreign parts, that would not for all this conform.

Hereupon, being outwearied with intollerable oppreſſions, a ſmall party of Diſſenters were partly compelled, and party by a ſurpriſe of Providence engaged, to run together for their own defence, at *Pentland* *Anno* 1666. Where, after the defeat, *The Priſoners that were taken upon Quarter and ſolemn parol to have their life ſpared, were treacherouſly given up to be Condemned, the very manner of their Execution being firſt determined and deſcribed before Arraignment, and cruelly hanged; their Heads being ſet up at* Edinburgh, Glaſgow, Air, Dumfreis, *and at* Hamiltoun; *Turks* would have bluſhed to have ſeen the like. Among the reſt one eminent Miniſter, Mr. *Hugh Mkail*, for having but a Sword tho not preſent at the Fight, was firſt cruelly tortured with the Iron boots, and afterwards execute to the death. At their Executions Drums were beat that they might not be heard; a Barbarity never known in *Scotland* before; and rarely heard of except in the Duke *d'Alvas* murdering the *Proteſtants* in the *Netherlands*; But frequently uſed almoſt at all the Executions ſince of our Martyred Brethren in this Land. Immediatly hereafter Souldiers were ſent out on free Quarter, to examine

Grivance 12.

amine men by Tortures, threatning to kill or roſt alive all that would not delate all they knew Acceſſary to that riſing: Who accordingly, by fire Matches and other tortures, forced Women to diſcover their Husbands and other Relations, although they knew not if they were there; ſtripped them who Reſet the Fugitives, and thruſted them in crouds to Priſons in cold and nakedneſs; And ſome they murdered without Proceſs, that would not, becauſe they could not, diſcover thoſe perſecuted people; Yea and drove away the Goods of the Country, without reſpect to Guilt or Innocency. In the mean time, ſuch as were in Armes, and ſome that were not, were Intercommuned, and interdicted of all Reſet, Harbour, Hiding, Correſponding, or Comfort, under pain of Rebellion and of being counted guilty of the ſame Crimes, wherewith the Intercommuned were charged. And many Gentlemen, Miniſters, and others, were Forfeited of their whole Eſtates very illegally: Yea ſome that were not preſent at that Appearance in Armes, nor Legally Convict, nor cited to anſwer according to Law, were yet Forfaulted before the *Act* of *Parl.* 2. *Act* 11. *Carol.* 2. contrare to expreſs ſtanding Statutes. And further all Diſſenters, and ſuch as did not joyn in ſuppreſſing that Expedirion, were by order from the Council robbed of their Armes and Horſes fit for ſervice; their guilty Conſciences puting them in Fears, and dictating their deſert of greater oppoſition.

After all theſe Cruelties, murdeting the Perſons and oppreſſing the Eſtates of poor Diſſenters; what they could not do by Law, nor Force, nor Fury, they contrived to effectuate by Craft, under the notion of Clemency; but ſuch a Clemency, as was a greater Cruelty then any former Perſecution. The poor People that had nothing left them but a good Conſcience, muſt have that robbed from them likewiſe: Therefore theſe wicked Councellers and *Prelates*, ſtill ſtirred up by the *Curates*, having none or a ſeared Conſcience of their own, contrived to take away from People all Remainders of Conſcience, or to make them pliable to comply with every corruption they ſhould introduce, by impoſing Conſcience-debauching and enſnaring *Oaths* and *Bands* moſt Deceitfully and Ambiguouſly framed, moſt Illegally impoſed, and Inſolently preſſed, and more numerous ſince that time than ever was heard of in any Nation in one Age: there being ſcarce one year ſince that time, wherein ſeveral of theſe Oaths and Bonds have not been vented and impoſed, contradictory to one another, contrary to *Grievance* 13.

our ſworn Covenants and work of Reformation, impoſſible to keep, and unlawful to take.

Grievance 14. Yet finding they could not yet ſuppreſs the perſecuted Meetings for Goſpel Ordinances, but that the more violence was uſed the greater and more frequent they grew; They fell upon a more crafty device, to divide and deſtroy the Remnant, to overturn what remained of the Churches Priviledges undeſtroyed, and to ſettle Miniſters and People into a ſilent and ſtupid Submiſſion to all the Kings Uſurpations upon the ſame, by giving an *Indulgence*, *Anno* 1669. to ſome outed Miniſters, with Reſtrictions and Inſtructions, clearly homologatory of the Supremacy whence it flowed, eſtabliſhing the height of *Eraſtianiſm*, prejudicial to the freedom of the Miniſtry, injurious to the Priviledges of the Church, contrary to *Presbyterian* Principles, and contradictory to the *Covenants:* The Grant and Acceptance whereof hath been the bane of the Church of *Scotland*, and a Bone of Contention rending and ruining the Remnant of Miniſters and People Unite before. The end of it was to advance the Supremacy; as upon this occaſion they enlarged and explained it: And becauſe it was againſt Law, therefore, that the Kings Letter might be made the Supreme Law afterwards, at leaſt Law enough for the Council to proceed, enact, and execute what the King pleaſed in matters Eccleſiaſtick, The *Parl.* 2. *Act* 1. *Carol.* 2. held by *Lauderdale*, Aſſerts and Declares, "That, by vertue of the Supremacy, the ordering of "the Government of the Church doth properly belong to his Majeſty "and Succeſſors, as an Inherent Right to the Crown; and that he "may enact and emitt ſuch Conſtitutions, Acts, and Orders, con-"cerning Church Adminiſtrations, Perſons, Meetings, Matters, as "he in his Royal Wiſdom ſhall think fit, Which Acts, Orders, &c. "Are to be obſerved and obeyed by all Subjects, any Law, Act or "Cuſtom, to the contrary notwithſtanding.

Grievance 15. But now as before, faithful Miniſters that were not thus Indulged, ſenſible of the indiſpenſable neceſſity of Preaching the Goſpel, and of the Peoples great neceſſity calling them to it from ſeveral quarters, after they had undergone and endured many hazards and hardſhips of Villany and Violence, Impriſonment and Baniſhment, for meeting in the Houſes, where they were eaſily Intraped, Interrupted, and Inſulted over, were forced to go to the Fields, and Preach in places moſt convenient, ſecret and ſafe; whither the People, being tyred of their cold

cold and dead Curates, and wanting long the Miniſtry of their old Paſtors, reſorted in great numbers, on the greateſt of hazards: the Council then, at the inſtigation of the Biſhops and Curates, raiſed Troops of Horſe and Dragoons to purſue them as Traitors and Rebells, for their following that Neceſſary and Signally bleſſed Duty; Impowred and Encouraged to apprehend, and bring Dead or Alive, ſome Miniſters, with prices put upon their Heads, and to incarcerate all they could find, either at the Meetings, or ſuſpected to be coming to or from them. Hence Priſons were filled; ſome were ſent to the *Baſs*; ſome Baniſhed; and many hundreds driven from their Dwellings, Outlawed, and Intercommuned.

For Legalizing ſuch Miſchiefs, the ſecond *Seſſ.* of the ſecond *Parliament*, *Anno* 1670. held by *Lauderdale*, made many wicked Laws, cauſes of many Grievances following. As *Act* 2. 'Ordaining all of every quality or ſex, called to depone upon Oath their knowledge of ſuch 'Meetings and Perſons therein, to declare the ſame in all particulars 'interrogate, under the pains of Fining, Impriſonment, or Baniſh-'ment, and Deportaion to the *Indies*, as the Council ſhall think fit: ob-'lidging People thereby to betray their own Neighbours. *Act* 5. De-'claring all outed Miniſters, found Preaching or Praying, in any 'Houſe except in and to their own Family, ſhall be Imptiſon-'ed, till they find Caution under the pain of 5000 Marks, not to do 'the like again; and every Hearer ſhall be *toties quoties* fined, each 'Tennant in 25 Pounds Scots. each Cottar in 12 Pounds, *&c.* And 'that all that Preach in the Fields, or in any Houſe where any of the 'People are without Doors, ſhall be puniſhed with DEATH; and 'any that ſhall ſeiſe and ſecure any of them, dead or alive, ſhall have '500 Marks reward. *Act* 6. Impoſing moſt Tyrannically exorbitant and grievous Fines, upon any that ſhall offer their Children to be Baptized by any but Curats and Indulged Miniſters; which were afterwards, by *Act* 11. *Seſſ.* 3. *Parl.* 2. laid upon all who ſhall keep their Children Unbaptized for Thirty dayes together. *Act* 9. Impoſing intolerable Fines on all that ſhall three Sabbath dayes together withdraw themſelves from their own Paroch Churches. *Act* 9. *Seſſ.* 3. Declaring all Ordinations of Miniſters, ſince the Year 1661. which have not been by Biſhops, to be Null and Invalid; and that they are no Miniſters that are otherwiſe Ordained: encroaching hereby on the moſt Intrinſick and formally Eccleſiaſtick Powers of the Officers

Griev. 16.

of Christs Kingdom. These wicked Acts were followed with cruel Executions, whereby many were made to endure such Havock, as harder could not be found in the Reign of *Caligula* or *Nero*, both in their own Houses, in Prisons, and at Sea in Deportations.

Grievance 17. Hereafter, thinking the ordinary Forces not cruel enough in executing these enacted Mischiefs, they brought from the wild *Highlands* a Host of 10 or 11000 Barbarous Savages, and poured them in upon the *Westeren* Shires (all peaceable at the time, none so much as moving a Finger against them) on design, as would seem, utterly to lay them desolate: with Orders to press a Bond of Conformity, wherein every Subscriber was bound, for himself and all under him, to frequent the Paroch Church, and never go to House or Field Meetings, nor reset any that went to them, but to informe against, pursue, and deliver up all outed Preachers to Judgement. Many Houses and Families were then left desolate, the Inhabitants being made to flee in the Winter Season: many left their Cattel, and in seeking to recover them lost their Lives.

Grievance 18. Yet the Innocent Country was made to pay for all this Service, and hire them to do more, by paying the imposed *Cess*, enacted and exacted professedly, by the Act of the Convention of Estates holden by *Lauderdale*, *anno* 1678. to raise and maintain more Forces, and to maintain the Supremacy as now Asserted and Established, and to suppress Field Meetings called *Rendezvouses of Rebellion*. And, for the same Causes, and to suppress the Propagation of the Principles then suffered for, continued by *Act* 3. *Parl.* 3. held by the DUKE of *York* Commissioner. And by *Act* 12. *Parl.* 1. *Jac.* 7. holden by *Queensberry*, continued and prorogued, during all the Terms of his Lifetime: which, because of the Illegality of its imposition, the nature of its Exaction, being an Obedience to a wicked Law, a help to the Ungodly to make Havock of the Church, a hire to the Souldiers to destroy what remained of Religion and Liberty, and because of its ends so expresly Declared in the Narratives of the Acts, to suppress the persecuted Gospel and destroy its Followers, many *Presbyterians* durst not justify by Obedience, in paying the required Moyetie, but chose rather to suffer joyfully the spoyling of their Goods, and all the force and fury they could exert against them. Whereby many tho' poor yet honest and honestly provided Families, were laid waste, and exposed to the Miseries of uncertain Wanderings.

At

At length, upon occasion of *Graham* of *Claverhouse*, his assaulting a meeting near *Loudoun-hill*, carrying about with him a Minister and several Countrey men bound as Beasts, and getting a repulse in the rancounter with the meeting; Another Insurrection, for our Lives, Liberties, and Religion, was undertaken, and discomfited at *Bothwel-bridge*, *anno* 1679: and at the defeat several hundreds were killed on the Field, and 10. or 1100. were taken Prisoners, stript, and carried to *Edinburgh*, where, after two of our Ministers were martyred for that Appearance, Mr. *John King* and Mr. *John Kid*: And after the rest of the Prisoners were kept several weeks in a Church yard, without a covert either from cold or heat in the open Air; a bond was tendered, seeming to offer Life and Liberty, on terms that clearly condemned the cause, *never to rise in Arms against the King, on any pretence whatsoever, &c.* Which many took, and the rest of us that refused, and even many that did take it, were sent away in a Ship bound for *America*, between 2 and 300 in all: who were all murdered in the Ship, being shut up under the hatches, when it split upon a Rock in the North of *Scotland*, excepting 50: some of which are yet alive to give this account. *Grievance* 19.

After this, the grand Design of subverting and utter everting our Reformation, tho' from the beginning of this Fatal Catastrophe projected, and by all the forementioned Methods prosecuted hitherto, was more and more discovered, and beyond all denial demonstrated, that nothing less was intended then the gradual introduction of *Popery* and *Slavery*, and that by all the ordinar *Jesuitical Rules*, observed in the seduction of Churches into the *Roman Tyrannie*: The chiefest of which have alwayes been to foment all Quarrels among *Protestants*, and to strengthen the Party readiest to comply, to make and execute rigorous Laws against the most tenacious, and to load the *Protestant* Opinions that are more obnoxious with all odious constructions. Accordingly in the first place, to propagate Defection and promote Division, a Proclamation was emitted *anno* 1679 inveighing against and resolutely interdicting all Field-meetings; and granting Liberty to Preach in Houses upon terms of a *cautionary Bond*, binding and obliegeing the People for their Ministers living peaceably, and in Order thereto to present him before his Majesties Privy Council, when they should be called so to do; And in caise of failzie in not presenting him, to be lyable to the sum of 6000 *merks*. Yet excluding all these *Ministers*, who were suspect to have been at that insurrection of *Bothwel*; And *Grievance* 20.

all

all those who should afterwards be admitted by *Non conformed* Ministers: Whereby those that durst not comply were exceedingly divided, and more easily destroyed.

Griev. anee 21. For their Courts of cruel Inquisition went by Circuit through the Country, pressing the Bond of Peace, denying the Principle and renouncing the Priviledge of Defensive Arms; And taking up *Portuous Rolls* of all that were suspect to have been at *Bothwel* insurrection; whereof they reputed all to be convict, who being summoned did not appear, or were delated by Oath *super inquirendis* to have been seen or heard to be in Armes, or did not go to the Kings Camp, about that time. Whereby, not only upon the account of that Appearance were many executed to the Death, by packing bloody Juries and Assises, as might conduce and be for their murdering ends, besides more than can be reckoned that were kept to perish in Prisons, or Deportations to Banishment; But many Gentlemen and others were Indyted, Imprisoned, and some condemned to Death, others Forefaulted or Fyned above the value of their Estates, for having seen or spoken with some of those called Rebels; or because they did not discover or apprehend them, even when they did not and could not know whether they were called or counted Rebels or not.

Grievance 22. And some poor People, when they could not be reached any way for this insurrection at *Bothwell*, nor any other overt Act or Transgression against even their Wicked Laws, were condemned for their simple declared Opinion of it: Which the Council, and Court of Justiciarie, particularly Sir *George Mackenzie* Advocate, did extort from them by terrible menacings of Death and Torture. For, being interrogate, *Whether the rysing at Bothwel-bridge was Rebellion, and a sin against GOD:* Many, for saying it was not, yea, for not saying it was, and waving the Question, as reckoning themselves not oblieged to Answer, were cruelly condemned and executed, tho they declared and were known to be as free as the Child unborn of these Actions they were examined upon.

In Fine, After our Patience had been long outwearied with insupportable Slavery, and under such intollerable Oppressions in our Consciences, Persons and Estates, so universaly extended, that in the present circumstances we had more reason to hope, that past miseries, present Pressures, and future Dangers of greater Encroachments, then foreseen by all men that did not willingly shut their Eyes, should have

have incited and invited all, that had any regard to the great Interests of Religion and Liberty, to concur in an Essay to emancipate themselves and posterity from that Yoke of grassant & growing Tyrannie, Than to fear the condemnation of any under these Oppressions, or the clamour and out cry of those that were at ease against the Informality, Illegality, Unseasonableness, or Unseasableness of such Revolt: We were Enduced and Enforced at length, when we could do no more to preserve what remained of these Interests; or save our Consciences innocent from all participation of the sin of the destroyer of them; To declare for our parts a Revolt from, and disown Alleagiance to King *Charles* the Second, as being no longer to be accounted our Supreme Magistrate, but *ipso jure* devested of that Office and Trust, Reposed and Devolved on him by express Compact and Covenant: When he broke all these conditions, whereupon his Authority and our Alleagiance were founded; in his utter violating and making void the Covenant and Coronation Oath, whereby our Subjection to him, limited to those provisions, was explicitely disingaged and remitted; when he did unhinge and infringe all the Legal Establishments of our Religion; and subverted all our Religious Liberties, by usurping a Blasphemous Sacrilegious Supremacy over Ecclesiastical Ordinances instituted by Christ; And when now he had overturned all Fundamental constitutions of the State as well as the Church, subverting the Peoples Rights, Liberties, Laws, and all securities of our Life and Enjoyments whatsoever, by claiming and taking an Absolute Tyrannical Civil Prerogative, paramount to all Law, inconsistent either with the Freedom or Safety of the People: Whereby no shadow of Government was left, but Arbitrary Absoluteness, making the Kings Letter the Supreme Law of *Scotland*; while Innocent and Honest People for Conscience were grievously oppressed, and Perjuries, Adulteries, Idolatries, and all Impieties, were not only Indemnified and past without punishment, but encouraged as Badges of Loyalty. For which causes, we openly proclaimed our Revolt from the Government as it was then Administrate. And in the same Declaration, we reckoned our selves oblieged to protest against the Reception of the Duke of *York* in *Scotland*, And against his succeeding to the Crown, who was then declared incapable of Succession of the Government, by a Vote of the two Honourable Houses of the Parliament of *England*. For owning

Grievance 22. For owning, and not daring to disown, which Revolt, it is impossible to enumerate our Kinds and Degrees of Sufferings: for this we had our Ministers and Brethren Murdered, both in the Fields, and Scaffolds, and Prisons, and Seas; Besides those that were slain at *Airdsmoss*, where *Bruce* of *Earleshall* attacked us, and slew Mr. *Richard Cameron* a Faithful and Zealous Minister with many of our Brethren. After this it was generally imposed on Prisoners, even such as could not be charged with any Accession to the forementioned Declaration, to give an account of their Thoughts and Consciences about the Lawfulness of the Kings Authority: which if they could not own, or declined to declare their Thoughts, as judging it the common Interest of Mankind to plead for the Freedom of Thoughts from all humane Juridiction, or if any answered with such innocent Qualifications, as that they owned all Lawful Authority *In the Lord*, or, *According to the Word of God*; then they were punished as Traitors, executed to the *Death*, and some at their first apprehending Tormented with *Fire-matches*, then laid in *Irons*, afterwards Tortured with the *Boots* or *Thumbkins*, and after all executed in a most Barbarous manner without suffering them to speak their dying Words for beating of Drums. Thus a great number of innocent People have been destroyed, without respect to Age or Sexe; some meer Boyes have been for this hanged; some stouping for Age; some Women also hanged, and some Drowned, because they could not satisfy the Council, Justitiary Court, and the Souldiers, with their thoughts about the Goverment.

Grievance 23. In the Year 1681. the Duke of *York*, as Commissioner from his Brother, held a Parliament, (Auspicated with the Blood of Mr. *Donald Cargil* a Godly and Faithful Minister, which was shed at the *Cross* of *EDINBURGH*, the day before the sitting down of the Parliament) wherein he not only presided against all our Righteous Laws, that Make a *Papist* incapable of such a Trust, and against their own Laws, without taking the Oaths of Administration, but procured an Act to be made recognizing his Succession to the Crown notwithstanding all standing unrepealed Laws against *papists*: wherein also many Acts were contrived that have been great causes of the desolation and depopulation of the Country that ensued: As *Act* 4. dowbling the Fines imposed by former Laws for Field Conventicles; And ordering Heretors and Masters to put away their Tennants, Cottars, or Servants, at any time of the Year without any warning or

proces

proceſs of removing, notwithſtanding of any Tacks or Terms to run, And to retain their goods, &c. *Act* 16. Declaring, "that all Juriſdicti-
"on doth ſo reſide in his Majeſtie, that his Majeſty may, by himſelf
"or any Commiſſionated by him, take Cognizance and Deciſion
"of any caſes or cauſes he pleaſes. Hereby a foundation was laid for overturning all Civil and Criminal Juſtice, and for erecting the Tyranny of the *Popiſh Inquiſition*, whenſoever matters were ripe for it, and for commiſſionating Souldiers to take away the lives of Innocents, without all Proceſs of Law, as was frequently exemplified afterward And *Act* 6. and 25. Framing and Impoſing on all in Truſt a deteſtable and ſelf contradictory Teſt, which turned out of all places of Truſt any that retained any meaſure of common Honeſty. For explaining which, the late Earl of *Argyle* was arraigned and condemned; and eſcaping priſon, forced to flee to forraign Lands: As many others, both Gentlemen and Commons were conſtrained to leave the Land; where for multiplied, illegal, and enſnaring impoſitions, they could neither live like Men nor like Chriſtians, but as Aſſes couching under all burdens.

Theſe and the like Acts, with many others Arbitrarly ſuperadded *Proclamations* (which have been multiplied every year beyond all reckoning, and ſtretching the deſigns of the Court beyond all Meaſures, no only of Legality, but of Humanity, expecting at the next Parliament to have them either juſtified or Indemnified and pardoned) were with Tyrannous Rigor executed by Circuit Courts of Inquiſition (ſome way equally if not exceeding the *Spaniſh*, for illegality and inhumanity) preſſing Conformity, ſubmiſſion to Prelacy, Impoſſing, enſlaving and enſnaring Oaths and Bonds, contradictory to Reaſon, and contrary to Religion; and Oppreſſing of all Ranks, Qualities, and Vocations, with ſuch Arbitrary Acts of Intercommunings, Finings, and other intollerable Impoſitions, that they ſeemed to drive at no leſs than the overturning what remained undeſtroyed of Religion, Liberty, Law; or Conſcience in the Nation. For not only the Poorer ſort were many wayes Oppreſſed, Plundered, Pillaged, Impoveriſhed, and Deſtroyed; but Gentlemen alſo were extremely vexed, for alledged converſe with Intercommuned Sufferers, being Forefaulted, Fined, and incarcerate, till they ſhould pay Summs, which neither they were obliged nor able to pay. And not only were the formerly perſecuted Miniſters, lurking in the Land, *Grievance* 24.

forced to leave it; or Cited and Compeared at their Courts were Imprisoned: But even the Indulged Ministers, who by the Kings Supremacy were Authorized to Preach in Churches allored to them, were as Arbitrarly Discharged, Summoned to their Circuits, and Imprisoned. Especially we, who durst not comply in less or more with any of their Impositions, nor own their Usurpations and Tyranny, whom therefore they represented in all their Edicts, as Enemies to all Government and Humane Society, were exposed to, and made to endure the utmost of their rage.

Grievance. 25. Our Families were harassed, pillaged and laid waste, our Persons were intercommuned, driven out of our own and all other habitations into the Wilderness, being interdicted of all Harbour, Supply, Comfort or Converse, by barbarous Edicts; and incessantly pursued by numerous Forces, Horse, Foot, and Dragoons powered into all parts of the Country, Impowered and Commissioned to plunder and pillage all houses where they heard we were seen; And not only to search, hunt, & chase us through all Towns, Villages, Cottages, Woods, Moors, Mosses, and Mountains, forcing us us to flee to the remotest Recesses in the wildest Deserts; But to Shoot, Hang, Drown, Murder, and make Havock of us, where ever they could apprehend us, without Tryal or Sentence. Proclamations one after another were Emitted, commanding all to raise the *Hue* and *Cry* after us, and not only to advertise the Souldiers, but to concur with them in pursuing us, and to seek us out of all our Dens and Caves in the most retired places of the Mountains, which we digged under ground, when we could not find a hiding place above the face of the Earth: Whence we were redacted to many incredible hardships and hazards, being exposed to the cold blasts of Winter, and the pinching straits of Hunger, when we could neither have Sustenance with us, nor durst we go abroad to seek it but in the peril of our Lives, and being forced to hide from Country People as well as Souldiers: Whence many of us could not escape falling into their bloody hands, who, in obedience to their murdering Mandates killed many instantly in the Fields; And such as obtained the favour of being spared for execution upon Scaffolds, tho without any colourable shadow of a formal procedure, or were imprisoned, Tortured, or Banished to be Slaves, were thought to have been very mercifully dealt with. Whereupon, being driven to such a paraxisme of Danger and Despair, that neither

neither were we able to endure the extremities of inexpressible miseries then lying and growing upon us, nor had hope to escape in Humane probability the utter destruction intended, enacted, declared, and indefatigably pursued against us by our Enemies, the *Popish*, *Prelatical* and *Malignant* faction; When so many of us were daily taken and murdered, and the rest of us could neither escape by flight out of the Land, (Orders being given to stop all passages by Sea and Land, and catch us whersoever we could be deprehended making any such Essay) nor by lurking and hiding in the Land, through the Vigilance and Diligence of Intelligencers, who were suborned and encouraged to use all endeavours to intrap and inform of us, whersoever we could be heard of; No other expedient was left under our Deliberation to try, for preventing our utter extermination, than to publish, by affixing on the Church-doors in the night season, an *Apologetick Declaration*, avowing our Adherence to former Principles and Testimonies, and warning our Enemies to surcease from their wickedness and severity against us, under certifications that it should be revenged: Designing hereby mainly to restrain and deter these insolent Intelligencers.

Hereupon followed a most violent Proclamation, Ordaining all that owned or refused to disown the Declaration, and the principles therein specified, should be execute to the Death; Commanding all the Subjects to concur in the pursute of us; And for their encouragement, offering 500 Merks for each of us; Requiring also, that none presume to offer to travel in the Country without Testificates of their Loyalty, by taking the Oath of *Abjuration*, otherwise they should be holden as concurrers with us, and therefore that none shall be lodged without these Certificates. Hence the Trade and Commerce of the Countrey was much interrupted and prejudged, by prohibiting all to travel without a Pass in time of Peace. And to the reproach of all Order and Government: Hostlers and common Inn-keepers were made Judges impowered to impose Oaths upon all Passengers & Travellers, that their Passes were not forged and feigned. This Oath of Abjuration was pressed universally, on pain of Death, (in some places from house to house) upon Men and Women, Young and Old; who were pressed upon the penalty of Death, without time to advise upon it, to give their judgement of the said Declaration, and of the Kings Authority; which contributed very much to make it more and

Grievance 26.

more questioned by many, and ridiculous to all. Hence many of us that stood out and aloof from this complyance, were shot in the Fields; some brought in Prisoners, Sentenced, and Executed all in one day; and some early in the morning, that People might not be affected with the pitiful sight of such bloody severities; Yea, sometimes the Spectators were commanded by Captain *Graham* in *Edinburgh*, to give their judgement, and declare their Opinion, whether they were justly put to Death or not.

Grievance 27.

In process of time, the late King dying, and the Duke of *York* ascending the Throne; It would have been thought, that such Revolutions then occurring would have required and produced some Cessation, Relaxation, or Relentment of our persecution: being in our selves, and in our persecutors esteem, persons of so mean a Figure in the World, scarce worthy to be the Object of the indignation of a new installed Prince; And his late Proclamations would make the World believe, that the beginning of his Government had put an end to all these troubles upon the account of Conscience. But on the contrare, the Acts and Executions against us in a manner did then but begin to be cruel; And all the power of the Forces was imployed to destroy us, so much already destroyed. For then, more cruelly than ever, not only the standing Forces, but another Host of savage *Highlanders*, inured to Rapine and Murder, brought from the North, were ordered and impowered to Act against us the greatest Barbarities, in butchering and slaughtering us in the Fields where ever we could be found, without all colour of Justice, only for not satisfying them in their impertinent as well as wicked impositions on the Conscience, or form of Law, even the worst of their own Laws. Accordingly some of us at Labour, some traveling in the Road, were cut off without pity; Some surprised in Caves, and Murdered there; without time given to Pray to God for Mercy; some were taken first to Prison, then surprised with execution without a Triall or definite sentence, not knowing when or if at all they should be execute; Some had their Ears cutt, & then sentenced to be transported to *Iamaica*, and yet some of these were kept, and again sentenced with Death, and Executed: others were sent to an old ruinous Castle *Dunotter*, and kept in Vaults, in such crouds and Numbers, that they had no room either to sit or lie, and so cruelly treated, as would make Savages blush to hear of it, and then banished to *America*, and in the Voyage about 60 died

But

But as those cruelties were Monstruous for Illegality and Inhumanity; so the ensuing Laws made in the first Parliament, *James* 7th. 1685. held by *Queensberry* Commissioner, Approving and Ratifying the same, do far exceed all former for unparalelled Attrociousness: As *Act* 3. Allowing Pannals already in prison, and indicted for Treason, to be cited on 24 houres. *Act* 4. Statuting, That such as being cited to be witnesses as in cases of Treason, Field or House Conventicles, do refuse to depone, they shall be lyable to be punished as guilty of these Crimes respectively, in which they refuse to be witnesses. *Act* 5. Declaring, That the giving or taking the *National Covenant* or the *Solemn League and Covenant*, or writing in Defence thereof, or owning of them as Lawful, or Obligatory on themselves or others, shall infer the crime and pains of Treason. *Act* 6. Declaring the usual procedure of Fyning Husbands for their Wives withdrawing from the Church, to have been Legal. *Act* 7. Statuting, That the concealing and not revealing of any supply given to such, as are Forefaulted for Treason (*to wit*, the most innocent contending for the *Covenants* and Work of *Reformation*, against Popery, Prelacy, or Tyranny, and tho the supply should be given to their neareſt Relations so forefaulted) is Treason, and to be judged accordingly. *Act* 8. Statuting, That all that shall hereafter Preach at House or Field Conventicles, and all Hearers also at Field Conventicles shall be punished by Death and Confiscation. *Act* 13. Reinjoyning, and further extending the Imposition of the Self-contradictory Test. *Act* 17. Ratifying, Confirming, and Approving what hath been done by the Privy Council, Justiciary, or those commissionated by them, in Banishing, Imprisoning, and Fyning such as refused to take the Oath of Allegiance, (which includes the blasphemous Supremacy) with asserting the Prerogatives; And under the same pains, Ordaining all Subjects so to take the said Oath when required. *Act* 23. Ratifying and Approving the Opinion of the Lords of Council and Session, adjudging it Treason to refuse the Oath of Abjuration, confirming all the illegality of procedure thereupon. *Act* 24. Statuting, That all Masters, Heretors, Liferenters, *&c.* shall insert in all Tacks to be set by them to their Tennants, in Burgh or Landwart, an expreſs clause, oblieging the Tennant for his Wife and Family to Conformity, under exorbitant penalties. *Act* 25. Ratifying a Proclamation against us, as bearing the effect of an Act of Parliament; Requiring all the

Subjects

Subjects, upon knowledge or information of any one or two or moe of us in any place, to give information thereof to the Chancellour, and to the nearest Commanders of the *Forces*, within the space of an hour at most for every three Miles distance; and all Sheriffs, &c. To call the Subjects to search and apprehend us; And on our flight, to acquaint the Magistrates of the next Shire, and so from Shire to Shire, till we be apprehended, or expelled from the Realm; with Certification, that whosoever fails in pursuing us whether Magistrats or Subjects, or in not giving timeous Information within the space forsaid, shall be held as Art and Part, and undergo the same Punishment with us. In which Act and Proclamation, we are called only 8o: Runnagats, Traitors and Fugitives, tho' in pursuance of this cruel Edict, they have Multiplied that Number many times over and over, in imprisoning, banishing, and butchering our Dear Brethren; And yet all the Prisons they could fill, and Ships they could fraught with us, and Gibbets they could hang us on, could never either exhaust or lessen our Number: For the more we were afflicted the more we grew; And the design to destroy us, by the mercy of our GOD counteracting it, proved alwayes a burdensome Stone to the Destroyers, and an help to the Destroyed. Yet tho they pretended to have us expelled out of the Realm, they shut up all possible access to attempting to depart out of it: For, as Forces were lying on each side the Borders to catch us if we should escape by Land, so they prevented all probability of going by Sea, by *Act* 27. of this same Parliament, Forbidding and Prohibiting all Masters of Ships to export any Passenger till he be brought before the next Magistrates: which none of us durst venture upon for fear of our Lives.

Grievance 28. This was an unhappy Specimen of the Kings Commenced Government, and a very unprecedented Policy of his Counselors, to reconcile male contented Subjects to a Loving and Conscienciously Loyal Subjection to him; being in effect the same with the Advice of the Young men to *Reboboam*, and productive of the same effect with that: When practically in their Acts and Actings it was declared to us, that whereas the former King had made our Yoke heavy; This would add thereto: The former had *chastised us with Whips, but he would chastise us with Scorpions*: Whereof having felt the smart so sharply, we could not be easily induced to a kindly acknowledgment of Allegiance out of Conscience unto him, who came not in as a Father to rule us, but as a Lyon to devour us. Wherefore, tho much pressed by all the Tyran-

nical

nical force, that could be exercised to enslave us under that Yoke, or destroy us for refusing, we could not in Conscience own or acknowledge his Lawful Authority. And in pressing it they gained little, after all the blood they shed on Scaffolds and Fields upon this account, but to ridicule the Government, and make it more contemptible, when they required every poor Lad & Lais in the Country to give their Opinion of the *Government*, a Question very unusual to be proposed to private Subjects. Men really invested with Authority do think, their Laws and Power to execute them on Offenders may well enough secure the Peoples subjection, and will disdain such a suspicion of the questionablenss of their Authority, as to make it a Question to the Subjects: The more it was made a Question to us, the more it became questioned and suspected: And the more we were made to enquire into it, the further we were from deprehending or recognoscing in him either the Characters or Constitution of a Magistrate to be owned. We considered the many righteous Laws, established by our worthy Ancestors, for the preservation of the True Religion and Liberties of the Kingdom, insert in the *National Covenant* (which every Soul in the Kingdom under the Bond of that Covenant, is bound to maintain according to their Capacities;) As *Act* 8. *Parl.* 1. King *Ja:* 6. repeated and ratified in many Acts afterwards, expresly providing and ordaining, "that all Kings and Princes, at their Coronation and "Reception of their Princely Authority, shall make their faithful "promise by Oath, and that they shall profess and maintain the *Pro-*"*testant* Religion, and shall abolish and gainstand all false Religion "contrary the same, and shall rule according to Law, &c. Which Oath of Coronation he did not take, would not take, could not take, while a Papist; and therefore we could not look on him as our King by Law. We considered likewise, that in our Covenants the Allegiance that we must own to the King is expresly limited and qualified thus, *In the preservation and defence of the True Religion, Liberties, and Laws of the Kingdom:* Of which Qualification, Allegiance to him, a destroyer of Religion and Liberty, is not capable. We remembred the Principles and Sentiments of our Fathers upon the Admission of King *Charles* 2. to the exercise of his Royal Power, Declared in their seasonable and necessary Warning, *Gen: Assem. July* 27: *Sess:* 27: 1649. Wherein they tell us, "That a boundless and illimited Power is to "be acknowledged in no King nor Magistrate; that there is a mutual

"Stipu-

"Stipulation and Obligation between the King and the People, as "both of them are tyed to GOD, ſo each of them are tyed to one "another: Accordingly Kings are to take the Oath of Coronation, "to aboliſh Popery and maintain the *Proteſtant Religion*: As long "therefore as the King refuſes to Engage and Obliege himſelf for ſe-"curity of *Religion*, and ſafety of his People it is conſonant to *Scripture*, "and Reaſon and Laws of the Kingdom, that he ſhould be refuſed: "And that in the Covenant, the Duty of owning the King is ſubordi-"nate to the Duty of preſerving Religion and Liberty. And there-"fore, without ſecurity of theſe, it were a manifeſt breach of Cove-"nant, and a preferring the Kings Intereſt to the Intereſt of Chriſt, to "bring him to the exercile of his power. And conſequently, for us "to give ſuch a conſent to it, as ſuch an owning of him as required, would amount to. Accordingly alſo the Commiſſion of the *General Aſſembly* in their Act of the *Weſt-Kirk*, Declared, "They would not "own the King nor his Intereſt, otherwiſe than with a ſubordination "to GOD, and ſo far as he ſhould own and proſecute the Cauſe of "GOD, and diſclaim his and his Fathers oppoſition to the Work of "GOD and the Covenant. We called to mind likewiſe, what our Renowned Reformers gave out, as the caſe of their Revolt from the Government of *Mary Qu: Dowager*, *anno* 1559. her perſecuting the Profeſſors of the True Religion, and oppreſſing the Liberties of the True Lieges, her intruding of Magiſtrates againſt all Order of Election, her Adultering and Subverting the Old Laws of the Realm, *&c.* Which all Men know were as applicable to King *James* 7th: as to her: And therefore we had their Reaſon to obliege us, and their example to encourage us to ſay with them; "We own and promiſe to our Lawful "Soveraign all due Obedience, provided we may have our Religion "and Liberty ſecured, without which we firmely purpoſe never to be "ſubject to Mortal Man. For which and many other Reaſons, we reckoned our ſelves under Obligations to decline the impoſed owning of his Authority; and took the opportunity in the time of the Expedition of the Earl of *Argyle* againſt him, to Publiſh in a Declaration our Reaſons why we could not acknowledge it.

Grievance 29. In the mean time, the late Earl of *Argyle*, with ſome other Noblemen and Gentlemen, Aſſociating with the Duke of *Munmouth*, to eſſay ſome Diverſion and Oppoſition to the Kings deſigns, of advancing and eſtabling Tyrannie and Popery: All the Forces, Militia Troops

Troups and Companies, and the whole Army of Heretors were powred in upon those Places of the Kingdom, where most of us were sojourning. Who, besides all the blood shed upon the account of that Expedition, the Blood of the Earle himself, and others of both Nations engaged with him, and many of his Wassalls in the Highlands cruely put to Death by the Marq. of *Athol*, had in Commission, and put in execution the Bloodiest Orders we think readily Men could ever receive or obey. The greatest employment, that that great Army had in hand and in heart, was to wreck and exert all their fury and force upon the poor *Mountain-Men* as they called us: Which they did by ranging and spreading themselves many miles in breadth, every one within sight of another, and searching for us through all the Rocks, Woods, Mountains, and Mosses of the Country, where we were hiding, with such Vigore, Violence, and dilligence, as if they had been hunting for *Hares* or *Foxes*. And the greatest ambition and emulation of their Leaders and Champions, *Graham* of *Claver-house*, & Liev. Gen. *Douglas* Brother to the Duke of *Queensberry*, Col. *Buchan*, with others of their inferiour Officers, Maj. *Balfour*, Liev. *Creighton*, and Liev. *Livingstoun*, &c. was, who should be most skilful and successfull in destroying us. And all this, for no other Cause, then because we could not Answer to their satisfaction the Questions they proposed, without any warrant of Law, and against the Common Interest of Mankind, which frees all Men from being obliged to discover their secret thoughts; Namely because we could not obtain of our Consciences to declare that we would own and acknowledge that Authority which enacted, and by which they acted, all these mischiefs. Yet, to the commendation of GODS Clemency, and condemnation of Mens cruelty, we may say, when they had shot all their bolts, after they had hanged, shot, tortured, or banished for slaves, all they could catch of us, they were further from their purpose than when they began; our Numbers and Mettings for Gospel ordinances, Administrated in Purity and power, encreased more and more.

Grievance 30.

But at length, tho' our Persecution continued, the King was pleased to change his Methods with other Dissenters. He multiplied many Favours to such of them as he called *Moderate*: And, by these means intending to advance the Mysterie of iniquity, by stoping the mouths, and binding up the hands of all from whom he might expect Control or Contradiction, and laying them by from all open opposition to

the introduction of Popetie and advancement of Slaverie, he purposed and proposed the repealing of the *Penal Statutes* against Papists, at the Parliament held by the Earl of *Murray*: Against which, when afterwards some of the Common sort of people, and of the Souldiers, spoke some what freely, and for shewing their dislike of setting up the Idolatrous Mals, and for speaking against Poperie, and the designs of the King, they were put to Death in a most Despotical and Arbitrary manner. The Persecution the mean while still continuing against us, and growing more dangerous, and worse to bear that we had all the brunt of it to sustain; while the Forces had few other to Persecute but us: which they did in great fury, murdering in Fields and Scaffolds, such as they could catch of us.

Grievance 31. At length, what could not be obtained by Law, at the formentioned Parliament for taking off the Penal Statutes, was effectuate by Prerogative, in a Proclamation, *Feb:* 12: 1687. Granting, by the Kings Soveraign Authority, Prerogative Royal, and Absolute Power, *which Subjects are to obey without Reserve*; a *Toleration*, under certain conditions, Restrictions, and Limitations, to all sorts of Persuasions, excepting us who are left to the full vigor and utmost rigor of the Laws made against us: Suspending, Stoping and Disabling all Laws, or Acts of Parliament, customs or constitutions against any *Roman Catholick* Subjects; giving them freedom in all respects, as much as any *Protestant* Subjects, whatsoever, not only to Exercise their Religion, but to enjoy all Offices, Benefices, *&c.* which he shall think fit to bestow upon them in all time coming. Hence Papists were put into places of highest Trust, both Civil and Military: And Popish Magistrates without any Election established in Burghs, *&c.* contrare to the known Laws of the Kingdom, admitting none to be "Magistrates, or so "much as a Procurator, Notar, or member of Court, who professes "not the Protestant Religion, *Act* 9: *Parl:* 1. *James* 6. Declaring all "Papists infamous, and unable to sit or stand in Judgment, pursue, "bear Office, or to be admitted as proves, Witness, or Assisors a-"gainst Protestants. *Act* 45: *Parl:* 3: *James* 6: which is extended to all and whatsomever Office, without any Exception or Restriction in all time coming. *Act* 5: *Parl:* 20: *James* 6. Hence also the Idolatrous *Mass* was set up in the most publick places of the Kingdom; and Popish Seminary Priests suffered and encouraged to preach, and set up Schools, to seduce the People, especially the Youth: contrare to many expres standing Laws, *Act* 3: *Parl:* 1: *James* 6: and *Act* 5: *ibid:*

"Or-

" Ordaining all layers or hearers of *Mass* to be punished, with im-
" prisonment for the first fault, banishment for the second, and justi-
" fying to the Death for the third fault. *Act* 122: *Parl*: 12: K: *James* 6.
" Decerning, That, in all time coming, the saying of *Mass*, resetting
" of Jesuites, *Seminary Priests*, Traffiquing *Papists*, shall be just cause
" to inter the pain and crime of Treason. *Act* 196: *Parl*: 14: *James* 6:
" Ordaining in all time coming, all wilfull hearers of *Mass*, and con-
cealers of the same, be execute to the Death: Ratified in the 1 *Act*. *Parl*. 19. *Jac*. 6. And in 5. *Act*. *Parl*: 20: *Jac*: 6. Hence Papists have erected schools, and made, sold, and dispersed their Heretical Books, tending to seduce the People from the true Religion: contrary to expres Laws, *Act*. 106. *Parl*: 7: *Jac*: 6: *Act* 24, and 25: *Parl*: 11: *J*: 6. This Popish Toleration, was neither extended to us; all the three Proclamations thereof expresly providing, that Field Conventicles, & all Preachers and Hearers thereat, be prosecuted according to the utmost Severity and Rigor of the Lawes made against them, left in their full Force and Vigor, with a Command to all Judges, Magistrates and Officers of Forces, to pursue us with all Violence; Nor could we in Conscience and Duty, directly or indirectly, suffer our selves to be involved, by any participation therewith or acceptance thereof, in the sin of it against the Laws of GOD and Man: Since it appeared evidently to flow from a Blasphemous fountain of Absolute Power; through a Treasonable Channel of stoping, Suspending, and disabling the Penal Statutes made against the Enemies of GOD, and of the Kingdom; and to be designed for the wicked ends of subverting the Protestant Religion, and the peaceable introduction of Popish Idolatrie and Heresie; And to offer, not the establishment of our Religion, but the Tolerating of it, under the scandalous notion of a thing to be suffered for a while; and with such shameful securities, as robbed the Church of all her Legal Charters of Laws and Covenants establishing her Reformation, leaving her nothing in lieu thereof but a blind precarious promise of One, whose principles oblieged him to keep no Faith with those to whom he promised it. But against all these indignities done to Christ, and injuries to the Church, intended and effected by this Toleration, our Ministers thought themselves oblieged to bear witness and Testimony: And with respect both to necessity and duty, to continue to keep their Meetings in the open Fields, whether the Tyranny of the times had driven them: Since they durst neither seem to Homologate the Toleration,

by coming under the sconce of such a protection; Nor durst they give such advantage to such as were insatiably thirsting after their Blood, and were impowered to shed it, as they were seeking and would have found, if they had shut up themselves within houses that could neither hold their Friends, nor be hid from their Enemies. This we looked upon as a Testimony, for the interest of the Protestant Religion, for our Covenanted Reformation, for the Laws & Liberties of our Country, all undermined and sought to be subverted by that Toleration.

Grievance 32. In the prosecution of this Device, when others were killed with Popish kindnesses, we were left to feell the sweet effects of Popish Cruelties. Some of our Brethren were Murdered in Fields and Scaffolds, since that pretended Toleration; Many both Men and Women have been banished and Sold for Slaves in *Barbados*: Other severe Proclamations were issued against our Ministers, Intercommuning, & setting a pryce upon their Heads, to encourage all to apprehend them Dead or alive: One of them, Mr. *James Renwick* a painful Minister being *Feb.* 1688. was Executed to the Death in *Edinburgh*, the Drums beating all the time of his Praying and speaking upon the Scaffold. And after this, not only was the Country oppressed with Souldiers, free quarterings, and frighted with their searches, and Insolences in their ryding up and down the Country, challenging peaceable Travellers upon the Road, about their Opinions of the Kings Authority, and if this and that was Rebellion; and threatning present Death to such as did not satisfie them: But the City of *Edinburgh* vexed with universal searches, and the impositions of these impertinences, whereby many were taken and examined by *Claver-house*, who required them to renounce the Covenant, imprisoned the Recusants; Whereby the Prisons were crouded: And yet, notwithstanding of an Indemnity, *October* 2. 1688. alledged as ample as Absolute Power could make it, tho not expresly excluded, they were detained Prisoners until the Report of his Highness the Prince of *Orange*, now King of *Britain* his prevailing, and fear of his Victorious Arms, did move them not to keep any longer any that might be evidences and Witnesses of their Arbitrary cruelty. As the same reason also, it seems did constrain them, to take down and bury the heads of those they murdered, for fear lest these monuments of their cruelty standing, might occasion the Question to be moved, by whom and for what they were set up?

Than

Than which nothing shall be more confounding to them, when inquisition shall be made for blood.

Thus these Enemies of the Country, the encroaching Privy Council, and the Prelates in special, now universally contemned since the Toleration, were going on in their Designs to enslave the Nation, and to prevent and suppress all Essayes to retrive or revive any hopes of recovering any Liberty; Multiplying their searches, not only for us, but for any that were suspected to favour their present Majesties Cause, and undertaking, so soon as it began to be surmised here; and laying up in irons and clos prison some Gentlemen, upon suspicion of their being privy to it. And, as soon as they had certain intelligence of King *William* his great and generous Resolutions, in order to the Restauration and Preservation of Religion, Laws, and Liberties, in these three Kingdoms, They made such vigorous preparations for opposition, and issued out such virulent Proclamations inveighing against his Highness, under such severities of certifications, requiring all from 60. to 16. to concur under their displayed Banner for Arbitrary Government, as if they had feared an Invasion from *Turks* or *Tartars*. Yet in the mean time, tho there were suspicions then, and discoveries since, of an intended *Popish Massacre*, they disarmed the *Western* Shires, and sent Orders to the Officers of Forces, especially imploying such as were professedly Popish, to go through the Country, and take all their Armes, leaving them nothing to defend themselves withal, and causing the People to swear that they had no other Armes than such as they got. And in their march, meeting with some of our number, they threatned to shoot them presently if they would not own King *James*, pray for him, and for confusion to all his Enemies: which they refusing at first were appointed to be shot, and had their faces covered with Napkins, and with great difficulty escaped by complying.

Grievance 33.

By the former Summary and abridged Abstract and compendious Deduction of our many and manifold Grievances (the Truth whereof can be evidenced by many demonstrative Evidences) it may appear what have been our sufferings since that fatal Revolution, *anno* 1660. from the Popish, Prelatical, and Malignant Party; and what have been their Attempts, Machins, and Methods to overturn our Religion, Laws, and Liberties, and subject us to meer Arbitrary and Absolute Tyrannie; At least what have been their capital Devices,

whereby

whereby they have ruined and ſought to raze us; And what have been the principal cauſes and kinds of our Sufferings, in their proſecuting the ſame: The particular Relation of which, ſo far as can be collected, is intended (GOD willing) afterwards in due ſeaſon to be publiſhed. Only here it may not be inconvenient to ſubjoyn, by way of ſpecimen, a ſhort Recapitulation in bulk of ſome inſtances of our ſeveral kinds of Sufferings, with a touch at ſome of the moſt principal Inſtruments thereof in the five *Weſtern* Shires.

Firſt, For *Fines*, and other Exorbitant and Illegal Exactions of Money, the particular ſumms cannot be here enumerated, but their vaſtneſs, when together calculate, may be eaſily collected by the ſcraps already gathered, of ſome poor Families of Farmers, Cottars, Servants, *&c.* and many of theſe omitted, or not known, which would very conſiderably augment the ſumm) in ſome few Shires, *viz. Clidſdale*, *Renfrew*, *Air*, *Galloway*, *Nithſdale*, and *Annandale*, only for but a few years, to wit, ſince *Bothwel-bridge* inſurrection, amounting to above 288000. pounds *Scots* Money.

Beſides the many honeſt Families, which have been caſten out of their houſes, haraſſed and ſpoiled of their *All*: Some of their houſes being thrown down, ſome Burnt, ſome ſhut up, their goods and moveables ſeized upon, their Crop and Cattel alſo diſpoſed of, at the will of their Perſecuters, in the forementioned Shires amounting to above 200: of all which we have a particular account in readineſs to inſtruct.

The immediate Authors, Actors, and Inſtruments of theſe oppreſſions, were principally the *Curates* inſtigating the *Privy Counsell*, which impowered the Forces, and Noblemen and Gentlemen of the Country, to prey upon the poor People. All cannot be here expreſſed, but ſome of the moſt noted in the *Weſtern* Shires ſhall be named, who were the greateſt Perſecuters and Oppreſſors by Finings and other Exactions.

Of Officers of the Forces.

Col. *Dowglas*, now Liev: Gen. *Dowglas*, Brother to the Duke of *Queensberry*, exacted above 2000 Pounds Scots Money, in *Galloway*, *Nithſdale*, *Shire of Aire*, and other Places.

Liev. Gen. *Drumond*, beſides the Forefaultries of Gentlemen, did alſo exact moneys of the poor in the Shire of *Air*.

The Earl of *Lithgow*, and his Souldiers, ſpoiled much in *Galloway*.

The

The Earl of *Airly*, and his Troup, in the ſame Shire.

The Lord *Balcarras*, a great Oppreſſor in *Galloway*, beſides all the Robberies he committed in *Fife*.

--- *Graham* of *Claverhouſe*, afterwards Viſcount of *Dundee*, with his Brother, and ſubaltern Officers in *Galloway*, *Nithſdale*, and *Anandale*, exacted by Fines and otherwiſe, above 13500: pounds *Scots* money.

Col: *Buchan*, a moſt violent perſecuter, in *Galloway* and Shire of *Air*, by Robberies took from the People upwards of 4000: pounds *Scots*.

Major *Cockburn*, a great oppreſſor in *Galloway*.

Major *White*, in *Clidſdale* and ſhire of *Air*, exacted by Fines and otherwiſe, above 2500. p: *Scots*.

Major *Balfour*, now called Liev: Col; *Balfour*, a great perſecuter and Oppreſſor in *Clidſdale*.

Captain *Strauchan*, with his Troup, oppreſſed and ſpoiled much in *Galloway*, & other places.

Captain *Inglis* with his Troup, did diſpoſſeſs many Families, and got much ſpoil in *Galloway*, ſhire of *Air*, and *Clidſdale*.

Captain *Dowglas*, in *Galloway*, committed much outrage and ſpoil.

Captain *Dalzel*, haraſſed much in *Anandale*.

Captain *Bruce* in *Nithſdale*.

--- *Meldrum* in *Clidſdale*, in ſeveral Inroads uplifted from poor Families upwards of 2300 Pounds; beſides the vaſt ſummes he exacted in *Mers* and *Tiviotdale*; with the Earle of *Hume*, *Ker* of *Gradown*, Laird of *Hayning*, and *Blindlee*; and in *Tweddale*, with the Laird of *Poſſa*, all great Perſecuters.

Liv. *Winram*, in *Galloway*, a very vigilant Perſecuter and Spoyler.

Liev. *Barns* alſo, in the ſame Shire took much Spoyl.

Liev. *John Livingſtoun*, a moſt violent Perſecuter and Exacter.

Liev. *Lauder*, in the Shire of *Air*, a moſt outragious Perſecuter and Oppreſſor.

--- *Bonſhaw*, a Borderer, a Highway Man, afterwards an Officer of Dragoons, robbed much from the poor People in *Clidſdale*.

Duncan Grant, a Creple with a Tree Leg, a very outragious Perſecuter, exacted in *Clidſdale* from poor People, above 1500 pounds.

Of Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Others, in the abovementioned Shires, the greateſt Oppreſſors and Perſecuters of the people, were;

In Clidſdale.

--- *Sommervail*, of *Spittel* Sheriff depute, who, beſides his other wayes of Perſecution wherein he was moſt Active, drew from the pooreſt People above 1200 pounds.

The

The Laird of *Holyards*, who uplifted more then 8500 pounds.

The Laird of *Lachop*, a great Perſecuter and Oppreſſor.

The Laird of *Bonnytown*, and Laird *Symme*, both violent Perſecuters and Exactors.

In the City of *Glaſgow*, Proveſt *Johnſton*, Prov. *Barns*, Bail. *John Anderſon*, Bail: *Tuil*, Bail. *Graham*, *William Sterling* Baron Bayliſ, great Perſecuters, exacted above 20000 pounds.

In *Renfrew*.

The Earl of *Glencairn*, by Fines and diſpoſſeſſing of Families, exacted, partly there, and partly in *Clidſdale* and *Nidſdale*, above 2400 pounds.

Lord *Semple* a Papiſt, a perſecuter.

Alexander Hume in *Eglſhome*, a moſt violent and vigilant Perſecuter and Exactor, with many others.

Mr. *Ezechiel Montgomery* a great Fine-Monger.

In the Shire of Air

The Earle of *Drumfries*, exacted above 1000: pounds.

The Lord *Craigy*, a great perſecuter and oppreſſor.

William Creighton Sheriff depute very violent and active.

Crawford of *Ardmillan*, a wicked perſecuter and ſpoiler.

Mr. *William Crawford*, *Montgomery* of *Bozland*, Laird of *Broyche*, Clark *Ogilbie*, all great perſecuters, who ſought to make themſelves up with the ſpoils of the poor people.

In Galloway.

The Laird of *Lag Grierſon*, a moſt wicked perſecuter there, and in *Nithiſdale*, exacted above 1200: pounds.

The Laird of *Elie*, *Lidderdale*, and *Canon* of *Merdrogat*, all diligent perſecuters and Intelligencers, together with the then Collectors.

In Nithſdale.

The Duke of *Queensberry* and his Sons oppreſſed much.

John Aliſon Chamberlain to the Duke of *Queensberry*, who when dying, ſaid, He had damned his Soul for the Duke his Maſter. And *George Charters*, another of the Dukes Factors, who vaunted, he had made 26: journeys in one year in purſuite of the Whiggs.

John Dowglas of *Sten-houſe*, a Papiſt, exacted above 5000: p:

The Laird of *Glosburn*, above 700: pounds.

Sir *Robert Dalzel*, upward of 400: p: of a few poor Families.

Sir *Robert Lawrie* of *Maxwelltown*, an oppreſſor and perſecuter.

In Anandale.

The Lord *Anandale*, diſpoſſeſſed and haraſſed many Families, and perſecuted much in *Galloway*.

The Laird of *Wellerhall*, a great Per: exacted upwards of 1000: p:

Sir

Sir *Patrick Maxwel* of *Sprinkell* a very active and violent persecuter and oppressor.

The Lairds of *Powdon*, *Castlemilk*, *Robert Carruthers* of *Remaskells*, *Thomas Kennedy* of *Heybuths*, most violent persecuters of poor People.

The Summes here charged upon these Gentlemen, are collected from the Minutes the Writer had by him, which he is certain are computed within the extent of the several Summes. The rest here named did also extort Considerable Summes, to their own gain and the poor Peoples loss; but because the forsaid Minuts do not give a Particular account of the *Quotas* therefore they are not supplied.

Next for the *Forefaulted* Gentlemen and Heretors, we shall not meddle with them: Hoping they shall give a good account of themselves.

And as for the number of such as have been forced to a *Voluntary Exile* to Forreign Countries, we think it Impossible to come to any reckoning of them: Nor of these that have been *Imprisoned* these 30. Years for Nonconformity, of whom it cannot be told how many have died in Prison, or contracted their Death in Prison, which spedily did follow upon their Liberation. Nor of the many extorted vast Sums, and Robberies of prisoners by *Laylors*.

Of the *Banished*, deported into other Countries, for the Cause of Adhering to the Covenant and Work of Reformation, it may suffice to give this account Besides the 6. or 7. Ministers that were banished, and went to *Holland*: and 7. or 8. Country People to *France*; Several others to *Barbadas*, before *Pentland*. Since the Year 1678. there have been banished and sent away Slaves, of Men and Women, for the same Cause, 700. viz. *anno*, 1678. To *Virginia*, 60. whereof 3. or 4. were Ministers, who were all by the Mercy of God delivered at *London*.

Anno, 1679. Of the Prisoners taken at *Bothwel*, were banished to *America*, 250: who were taken away by *Paterson* Merchant in *Leith*, that transacted for them with Provost *Milns*, Laird of *Barntown*; the Man that first did burn the Covenant; whereof 200: were drowned by Shipwrack, being shut up within the hatches, 50 escaped.

Afterwards were banished to *Flanders*, 7. men.

Thereafter were taken away in Banishment, by one *Robert Maloch*, 14. men.

Then by *Walter Gibson*, Late Provest in *Glasgow*, to *Carolina* 30.

Anno. 1685. in the time of *Queensberries* Parliament of Men and Women were sent to *Jamaica* 200.

That same Year, of the Prisoners in *Dinotter* with others were taken away by *Pitlochie*, to *Newgersie* 100, whereof 24. were Women.

That same Year, 13. more were sent to *Barbados*.

Anno 1687. after the Toleration 21. Men and Women were sent to *Barbados*.

As for the Number of the slain at the several Skirmages at *Pentland Bothuel*, *Airdsmoss*, &c. They amount too about 400. and some odds.

The Number of such as have been executed to Death on Scaffolds, under collour of Law, from Mr. *James Guthrie* the first, to Mr. *James Renwick*, is about 140, whereof some were Women.

The list of those that were killed in cold Blood, without Tryal, Conviction, or any colour of Law, by the persons under written, followeth.

Omitting the accounts of *Finlay*, murdered by General *Dalzels* orders at *Air*, because he could not discover who was at the appearance at *Pentland*, in the year 1666, And of *James Davie* in *Baibgate* paroch, and several others, at several times, in several places, whose blood was mingled with their sacrifice at Sermons in the Fields, before *Bothwel-bridge*; And of *Thomas Ker* of *Heybope*, brother to the Laird of *Cherrie trees*, who was forced to flee for shelter into the *English* Borders, and there killed by Col: *Struthers*, *anno* 1678; And of *Henry Hall* of *Haughead*, apprehended at *Queensferrie* by *Midletoun* Governour of *Blackness*, and after several wounds, at length knocked on the head by *Tho: George* Waiter at *Queensferrie*.

A short hint of those that have been Murdered since the Year 1682. *may suffice.*

John Graham of *Claver house*, Viscount of *Dundee*, in the Year 1682. with a party of his *Troup*, pursued *William Graham* in the parish of in *Galloway*, making his escape from his Mothers house, and overtaking him, instantly shot him dead.

Item, The said *Claver house*, together with the Earl of *Dumbarton*, and Liev: Gen: *Dowglas*, caused Peter *Gillis*, *John Bryce*, *Thomas Young*, (who was taken by the Laird of *Lee*,) *William Fiddison*, and *John Buiening*, to be put to Death upon a Gibbet, without Legal Tryal or Sentence, suffering them neither to have a *Bible*, nor to pray before they died, at *Mauchlin*. *anno* 1685.

Item, The said *Claverhouse* coming to *Galloway*, in answer to the Viscount of *Kenmures* Letter, with a small

a ſmall party ſurpriſed *Robert Stuart*, *John Grier*, *Robert Ferguſon*, and another, and inſtantly ſhot them dead, at the water of *Dee*, in *Gallaway*, *December* 1684. Their Corps being buried, were at his command raiſed again.

Item, The ſaid *Claverhouſe* in *May*, 1685. apprehended *John Broun* in *prieſt-hill*, in the pariſh of *Moorkirk*, in the Shire of *Air*, being at his work, about his own houſe, and ſhot him dead before his own door, in preſence of his Wife.

Item. the ſaid *Claverhouſe* Authoriſed his Troop to kill *Matthew Mickel-wraith*, without any Examination, in the Paroch of *Camonel* in *Carrick*, *Anno* 1685.

Col. *James Douglaſs*, now *Liev. General*, Brother to the Duke of *Queensberry*, together with *Liev: John Livingſton*, and a Party with them, ſurpriſed 5: men in a Cave at *Ingleſtoun*, in the pariſh of *Glencarn*, being betrayed by *Andrew Watſon* now priſoner in *Drumfreis*; their names were *John Gibſon*, *Robert Grierſon*, *Robert Mitchel*, *James Bennoch*, and *John Edgar*, all which were at the command of the ſaid Col: *Douglas* brought forth & immediately ſhot dead, without giving them ſo much time as to recommend their Souls unto GOD. One *John Ferguſon*, ſometimes a profeſt Friend, thruſt one of them through; ſuppoſing he was not dead: This was done in the Year, 1685.

Item, the ſaid Col: *James Douglas* and his party, ſhot to Death *John Hunter* for no alledged Cauſe, but running out from the houſe at *Corchead*, the ſame year, 1685.

Item, The ſaid Col: or Liev: Gen: *James Dowglas*, with Liev: *Livingſton*, and Coronet *James Dowglas*, ſurpriſed ſix Men at Prayer at the *Calduns*, in the pariſh of *Minigaf*; viz: *James Dun*, *Robert Dun*, *Andrew Mckale*, *Thomas Stevenſon*, *John Macklude* and *John Stevenſon*, in *January* 1685.

Item, The ſaid Col: or Liev: Gen: *James Dowglas* cauſed take *Adam Macquhan* out of his bed, ſick of a Fever, and carry him to *Newtoun* of *Galloway*, and the next day ſhot him dead, the foreſaid year, 1685.

Item, The ſaid Col: or Liev: Gen: *Dowglas* commanded *Thomas Richard*, an old Man of 70: years, to be ſhot in the time of prayer; (he was betrayed and taken by *Peter Ingles*) *anno* 1685. at *Cumnock* in *Kyle*.

Item, The ſaid Col: or. Liev: Gen: *James Dowglas*, together with the Laird of *Lag*, and Capt: *Winram*, moſt illegally condemned, and moſt inhumanely drowned at Stakes within the Sea-mark, two Women at *Wigtoun*; viz: *Margaret Lauchlan*, upward of 60: years

and *Margaret Wilson*, about 20: years of age, the foresaid fatal year, 1685.

Captain *Dowglas* finding one *Mowat*, a Taylor, meerly becauſe he had ſome pieces of lead belonging to his Trade, took him, and without any further trial ſhot him dead, between *Fleet* and *Dee* in *Galloway*.

Item, The ſaid Captain *Dowglas* and his Men finding one *Auchenleck*, a deaf man, for not making anſwer, through defect of his hearing, inſtantly ſhot him dead off Horſeback, near *Carlinwark*, *anno* 1685.

Sir *Robert Dalzel* and Liev: *Stratoun*, having apprehended *Daniel Mackmichel*, and detained him 24 hours Priſoner, took him out and ſhot him at *Dalveen*, in the pariſh of *Duriſdeer* in *Nithſdale*, *Jan:* 1685:

Item, The ſaid Captain *Dalzel*, and Liev: *Stratoun*, with their men, found *William Adam* hiding in a Buſh, and inſtantly killed him, at the *Walwood* in *Kyle*, *Feb:* 1685

Captain *Bruce*, Capt: of *Dragoons* apprehended *James Kirko*, at the intelligence of one *James Wright*, carried him to *Drumfreis*, detained him priſoner one night, next day brought him forth to the waterſands, and without any proceſs, ſhot him dead. The dying Man deſired a little time to make his peace with GOD; The Captain anſwered, oftner than once or twice, **Devil a peace ye get more mave up.** Some Gentlewomen coming to beg his Life, were hindred by one *Iohn Craik* of *Stewartoun*; the foreſaid *Dalzells* 2*d.* ſon was one of them that ſhot him, tho without command, *June* 1685.

Item, The ſaid Captain *Bruce* ſurpriſed in the Fields, and inſtantly ſhot three Men in the pariſh of *Kirk-patrick* in *Galloway*, *viz. John Wallace*, *Edger*, and another, *Feb.* 1685.

Item. The ſaid Captain *Bruce* and his Men, took out of his bed *Thomas Mekhaffie*, ſick of a Feaver and ſhot him inſtantly, in the Paroch of *Stratoun* in *Carrick*, *Jan.* 1686.

James Dowglaſs Coronet of *Dragoons*, commanded to ſhot *John Semple*, Eſlaying to eſcape out of his Window, in the Paroch of *Dellie*, *Anno* 1685. *Kilkerron* ſhot him.

Item. The ſaid Coronet *Dowglaſs* Apprehended *Edward Mckeen*, and by ſearch finding a Flint ſtone upon him, preſently ſhot him, without any further Tryal, *Feb:* 1685.

Liev. Gen. *Drummond* commanded without any Proceſs or Tryal *John Murchie*, and *Daniel Mekilwrice*, to be immediatly ſhot, after they were taken, in the Paroch of *Camonel* in *Carrick*, *Anno*, 1685.

At

At the same time, his Souldiers did shoot dead *Alex. Lin.*

Captain *Inglis*, and his *Dragoons* pursued and killed *James Smith*, at the Burn of *Ann* in *Kyle*, 1684.

Peter Inglis his Son, killed one *John Smith* in *Cunningham*, 1685.

Item. The said *Peter* or *Patrick Inglis* killed one *James White*, struck off his head with an Ax, brought it to *Newmills*, and plaid at the Foot ball with it, he killed him at *Little-black wood*, the foresaid year, 1685.

Item. The laid *Peter Inglis* shot *John Barrie*, with his *Pass* in his hand, in *Evandale*, *April*, 1685.

Major *Balfour*, together with Captain *Maitland* and their Party, Apprehended at their Work, *Robert Tam*, *John Urie*, and *Thos Cook*, and instantly shot them at *Pomadee*, near *Glasgow*, *May*, 1685.

Col. Buchan, with the Laird of *Lee*, and their men shot *John Smith*, in the Paroch of *Lesmahago*, *Feb:* 1685.

Liev: *Lauder* shot to death *William Shilliław*, at the *Wood head* in the Water of *Air*, Anno, 1685.

Liev: *Nisbet* and his Party shot to death *John Ferguson*, *George Whiteburn*, and *Patrick Gemmil* in the parish of *Finnick*, in the said year, 1685.

Liev. *Murray*, now Prisoner in *Edin.* with his party, Shot one *John Brown*, after quarters given at *Blackwood* in *Clidsdale*, Mar. 1685.

Liev. *Crichton*, now prisoner in *Edinburgh*, did most barbarously after Quarters, shoot *David Steel*, in the parish of *Lesmahego*, *Decem.* 1686.

The Laird of *Stenhouse*, Sir *Robert Laurie* of *Maxueltoun* and *John Craik* of *Stewartoun*, did instigate and urge Coronet *Bailie* his party of Dragoons to shot *William Smith* in *Hill*, after he had been prisoner one night (it was the day of *Maxueltouns* daughters Marriage,) who also refused to let him be buried in the Church-yeard.

Sir *James Johnstoun* of *Westerhall*, caused apprehend *Andrew Hislop* in the parish of *Hutton* in *Anandale* delivered him up to *Claverhouse*, and never rested untill he got him shot by *Claverhouse* his Troupers; *Claverhouse* would have delayed it, but *Westerhall* was so urgent; that *Claverhouse* was heard say, *This Mans blood shall be upon Westerhall*, May 1685.

Sir *Robert Grierson* of *Lag*, having the command of a part of *Claverhouses* Troop & *Strauchans* Dragoons, surprised *Jo. Bell* of *Whiteside*, *David Haliday* portioner of *Mayfield*, *Andrew Macrabeit*, *James Clement*, and *Robert Lennox* of *Irlintoun*, and barbarously killed them after Quarters, without time allowed to pray; when *John Bell* of *Whiteside* begged a little time to pray, *Lag* answered, *What Devil have you*

been

been doing? Have you not prayed enough these many years in the hills? and so shot him presently in the parish of *Tongland*, in *Galloway*, *Febr.* 1685.

Item, The said Laird of *Lag* having *Alexander Mellubie* and *John Gordon* Prisoners, at the Miltoun of *Orr*, without any Assise or Tryal, caused them to be hanged on a tree at the Kirk of *Irongray*, and there left them hanging.

Item the said Laird of *Lagg*, with the Earle of *Anandale*, having Command of some Troups of Heretors, pursued another *David Halyday* and *George Short*, and apprehended and shot them, under the cloud of Night, in the Paroch of *Wynhame* in *Galloway*, *Anno*, 1685.

The Laird of *Culyean*, for that time Captain of a Troup of *Militia* and Heretors, killed *William Mckergur* at *Blairquhan Milne*, *Anno*, 1685.

Item the Laird of *Culyean*, with the Laird of *Ballochmilne*, shott *Gilbert Meadam*, in the Paroch of *Kirkmichael*, *July*, 1685.

A party of *Highlanders* killed *Joseph Wilson*, *David Dun*, *Simeon Paterson*, and other two, near the Water of *Kill*, in a Moss in *Kile*, *Anno* 1685.

The Laird of *Ironkeple* commanding a party of *Highlandmen*, killed *Robert Lochart* and *Gabriel Thomson*, about that time also.

Likewise, *William Paterson* was shot at *Strevin*, uncertain by whom, 1685.

Also *John Mclorgan* was killed at *Drummellians* House in the night time not known by whom.

John Reid belonging sometimes to *Craigies Troup*, who was this last Summer in Rebellion in the *Highlands*, did under Cloud of Night, kill by a Shot, one *George Wood*, about 16 Years old, without asking one Question at him, at *Tinkhorn* hill in *Kyle*, *June* 1688.

In summ their Number amounts to 78.

The chief Contrivers and Authors of all these Slaughters and Mischiefs were, they that enacted and Subscribed the Edicts for them in Council, principally the E. of *Perth* Chancellour, Duke of *Queensberry*, Marq. of *Athol*, and particularly the *Viscount* of *Tarbat*, who invented this Murdering Device, wherein yet he carried so Cunningly, that he procured the dispatch of the Act to the King, with such suddenness, that he found a way to shift his own Subscribing of it.

Having thus, in a Compendious and Curlory Glance, given this short *Memorial* of our *Grievances* and *Sufferings* under the former Governments, with a particular Specimen of some Instances, discovering

ing some, and but a few of the Actors and Instruments of these Evils; whom we have specially mentioned, selected out of the Copious store of many others of that Character that might be specified, not out of a Principle of Revenge, or humor of Reproach, but from a Principle of Zeal for Justice, the Honour of the King, and Happiness of the Kingdom; We desire (in the sense of the Necessity, and in the Hope that the King and Parliament will see the Expediency of removing the former Tools of Tyranny from Power and Trust under this Government, and from a Capacity of driving their old Trade) that among others a Remark may be put upon the abovementioned Persons. We shall in the next place Condescend upon some of our present *Grievances*, which, instead of the Redress of the former, we are of new made to Groan under; whereby our Expectation have been in a great Measure disappointed, and the Comforts of our present Quiet and reviving in our Bondage (which yet we desire to be Thankful to God for, and to the King as his Honoured Instrument) are much Imbittered.

We are but a poor People, and therefore our Grievances are the less regarded: Nor were they indeed to be so much respected, if they were peculiar to us, but being of Common Extent, and Grievous to the greatest Body of the Nation (tho' a great part are so accustomed, *Issachar-like* to Couch under all Burdens, in silent and stupid Submission, that their Grievances are heavier than their Groaning; and others through frequent disappointments are become so heartless in their hopes of Redress, that they have given over Complaining, except in their private Murmurings, or secret Mournings before the Lord of Heaven and Earth) we have the more Confidence to speak out what others think, and Choose rather (if it shall come to that) to suffer *Once* for speaking than to *Continue Languishing* under growing Grievances for not speaking. For our former Grievances we do not plead merit to obtain a Redress: Yet we take the Confidence to say, that as our former Sufferings, under the former Governments, should have Conciliated Compassion; so what we have endeavoured to do in evidencing our Zeal for this, might have had some Consideration. We are represented by the Viperous *Curates*, and other Malignants, who alwayes sought our Ruine, as *Antipods* to all Mankind, Enemies to Government, and incapable of Orders: But as their Order and Cause is *toto Diametro* opposite unto the Institutions and Cause of Christ, and it were the Interest of all in this *Hemisphere* to have such a Generation of Viperous Reproachers, and their

lying

lying Lybells Baniſhed to the *Antipods*; ſo they muſt have little witt, and leſs Honeſty, who will entertain their Reproaches, who are as great Rebells to this Government, as we avowed our ſelves to be to the former. Our Sufferings for declining the Yoke of Malignant Tyranny and Popiſh Uſurpation are before hinted and generally known; and all that will be pleaſed to know, and conſider our Carriage ſince the King did firſt appear in his Heroick Undertaking, to Redeem theſe Nations from, Popery add Slavery, will be forced to acknowledge we have given as good Evidence of our being willing to be Subjects to King *William*, as we gave proof before of our being unwilling to be Slaves to King *James*. For upon the firſt Report of the Prince of *Orange*'s Expedition we owned his H. Quarrel, when as the Prelatick Faction were in Armes to Oppoſe his Coming to Help Us. We Prayed openly for the Succeſs of his Armes, when in all the Churches the Prayers were for his Ruine. We Aſſociated our ſelves to Contribute what we could to the promoting of his Intereſt; and were with the firſt that Declared a deſire to Engage for him, and under him at our Renewing the *Covenants*, when they were Aſſociating with and for his Enemies. Accordingly for that effect, after we had gone to Armes, upon the noiſe of *Kircudbrights* Burning, we modelled our ſelves in Companies; whereby we were in Readineſs to offer, and had the honour to be admitted to guard and defend the Honourable Meeting of Eſtates, againſt all Attempts of the D. of *Gordoun*, Vicount of *Dundee*, or other Enemies. And thereafter underſtanding the Government required the raiſing of Forces, for the defence thereof againſt the inteſtine Inſurrections, and Forreign Invaſions of the Late King *James*, his Complices within or without the Land: Upon the firſt occaſion, we were the firſt that offered to furniſh a Regiment for his Majeſties Service, and accordingly made up the E. of *Angus*'s Regiment, all in one day, without beat of Drum, or expence of Levy money; having firſt concerted with the Liev: Colonel *Clevland* ſuch Conditions and Proviſions, as we thought neceſſary for ſecuring and clearing our Conſcience, Liberty and Safety; "That all the Of-
"ficers of the Regiment ſhould be ſuch, as in Conſcience and Pru-
"dence, might with cordial confidence be ſubmitted nnto & followed;
"Such as had not ſerved the Enemy in deſtroying, nor engaged by
"Oaths and Teſts, to deſtroy the cauſe; now to be ſought for and
"defended; But that they ſhould be well affected, of approven Fide-
"lity

"lity, and of a ſober converſation. Having alſo declared, That the "cauſe they were called to appear for, was the ſervice of the Kings "Majeſty, in the defence of the Nation, Recovery and preſervation "of the Proteſtant Religion, and in particular, the work of Refor-"mation in *Scotland*, in oppoſition to Popery, Prelacy and Arbitrary "Power, in all its Branches and Steps, untill the Government of "Church and State, be brought to their Luſtre, and Integrity eſta-"bliſhed in the beſt and pureſt times. Upon theſe terms, we offer-ed to compleat two or three more Regiments, if it had been accepted. But, before we offered to be *Souldiers*, we had firſt made an offer to be *Subjects*; And becauſe we did not look upon our ſelves as Subjects to the Late King, who treated us as Enemies, We made therefore a voluntary Tender of our Subjection, in a peculiar Petition by our ſelves, which we purpoſed to have given in to the Meeting of Eſtates at their firſt ſitting down. We ſhewed it to ſeveral Honourable Mem-bers, but by their Advice it was delayed, untill the Meeting prevent-ed the purpoſe of it, by Proclaiming the *King* and *Queen*. The Tenor whereof here Follows.

TO THE

MEETING of ESTATES

Of the Kingdom of SCOTLAND.

The *NOBLEMEN*, *BARONS* and *BURGESSES*, Law-fully Called and Choſen, now Aſſembled at *Edinburgh*, for Eſtabliſhing the Government, Reſtoring and Securing the True Religion, Laws and Liberties of the ſaid Kingdom.

The Humble PETITION *of the poor People who have Suffered Grie-vous Perſecution, for their Revolt from, and diſowning the Authority of* James *the VII, Pleading for the devolving the Government upon the Prince of* Orange, *now King of* England.

SHEWETH,

THat the ſad effects of the Late Arbitrary and Tyrannical Courſe of Government, which theſe Nations, and we in a ſpecial man-

ner have been groaning under these years past; From which to Relieve them, the Most Serene and Illustrious Prince of *Orange* was induced by the Propitious Conduct of a very Glorious Providence, to Undertake this Noble and Heroick Emerprise, And for Redressing which, This Honourable *Convention* is Called and Conveened: Together with the revived hopes, since His *Highness* Auspicious Arrival, that all honnest men have begun to conceive and entertain, of getting their *Grievances* freely Represented and Redressed, The denyal whereof, these several years, hath been to us, and many others, a Grievance very grievous: Have necessitate, incited, invited and encouraged us among others (tho of the meanest Figure, and lowest Interest in this great Affair; Yet, as persons pressed to declare, and oppressed for declaring their Consciences, Sentiments and Resentments of the Late abused Government) to take the Boldness, now to open our hearts to this Great and Honourable *Meeting*; And with all humility, as becomes, to Represent to Your *Honours*, That, as we conceive, we wanted not Right and Reason upon Conscientious Grounds, to decline the Illegally extorted, and Arbitrarly imposed acknowledgement of our Allegiance unto *James* the VII. Whose Authority we could never own, because of his Illegal Investiture, without taking, or being in Capacity to take the Oath of Coronation (while addicted to Poperie) contrare to the Laws of God and Man, because of his Advancing the Prerogative, unto an Illimited and most Despotical Absolutness, *which all were required to obey without Reserve*; And because of his Arbitrary abusing it, to the undermining and overturning our Religion, Laws and Liberties, and intended Introduction of Poperie and Slaverie, at the opened gap of the *Prelatical Hierarchy*, *Erastian Supremacy*, and the Late vastly extended *Toleration*. And because we could not own it, our Sufferings have been very great, known to this and other Nations, and we are confident will not now be condemned by any that have espoused the Cause, and have been honoured to concur in the Emerprise of Rescuing these Nations from the Unsupportable Yoke of the Late Popish Domination, upon the same, or equivalent grounds on which we durst not own it: So we prostrate our selves, yet sorrowing under the smart of our still bleeding wounds, at your *Honours* Feet, who have a Call, a Capacity, and we hope a good mind to cure them; And offer this our *Petition*, enforced by all the formerly felt, presently seen, and for the future feared

feared Effects and Efforts of this Throne of Iniquity, and the mischief thereby framed into Law, and practised or projected against all Law, by the Cry of the Blood of our murdered Brethren, by the slavery of the banished free-born Subjects of this Realm, by all the miseries that many forefeited, disinherited, harassed and wasted honest Families have been redacted to (their Estates and Lives being at the mercy of incensed Souldiers) for adhering unto the Ancient Covenanted Establishments of Religion and Liberty; And by all the Arguments of Justice, Necessity and Mercy, that ever could conciliate Commiseration among Men of Wisdom, Piety and Vertue; humbly Beseeching, Requesting and Craving of your H: Now when GOD hath given you this opportunity to Act for His Glory, the good of the Church and Nation, your own Honour, and the Happiness of Posterity, Now when this Kingdom, the Neighbouring, and all other Nations of *Europe*, have their Eyes upon you, expecting you will acquit your selves like the Representatives of a free Nation, in redeeming it from Slaverie, otherwise ineluctable, following the Noble footsteps of your Renowned Ancestors, and the present Precedent and Pattern of this Honourable Convention and Parliament now sitting in *England*; That you will proceed, without any farther Procrastinations (alwayes, especially now Dangerous, when Papists, and other Malignant Enemies are openly attempting to raise a Rebellion against the State) to declare the late Iniquous Government dissolved, the Crown Vacant, and *James* VII, whom we never have, and resolve with many Thousands, never again to owne, to have really Forfeited, and rightly to be deprived of all Right and Title, he could ever pretend thereunto: And to provide, that it may never be in the Power of any succeeding Governour, for the time to come, to aspire unto or arrive at such a Capacity of Tyrannizing. Moreover since *Anarchy* and *Tyranny* are equally to be detested, and the Nation cannot subsist without a Righteous Governour, and none can have a nearer Right, nor fitter Qualifications, than his Illustrious *Highness*, whom the Most High hath signally Owned and Honoured to be our deliverer from Popery and Slavery; We Cry and Crave that King *William*, now of *England*, may be Chosen and Proclaimed King of *Scotland*, and that the Regal Authority be devolved upon him, with such necessary Provisions, Limitations and Conditions of Compact, as may give Just and Legal Securities of the Peace and Purity of our Religion,

Stability of our Laws, priviledges of Parliaments, and Subjects Liberties Civil and Ecclesiastick, and make our Subjection both a clear Duty, and a comfortable Happiness. And because Kings are but Men mortal, mutable, and fallible; particularly, We crave, that he be bound in his Royal Oath, not only to Govern according to the Will and Command of GOD, and Ancient, Laudible and Righteous Laws in the Ministration of Justice, punishment of Iniquities, Redressing of just Grievances, and preservation of true Liberties: But above all, that he and his Sucessors, profess persevere in, Protect and maintain the true *Protestant Religion*, abolish *Poperie* and all false Religion, *Heresie*, *Idolatrie* and *Superstition*, revive the *Penal Lawes* against the same, re-establish and Redintegrate the Ancient *Covenanted Work of Reformation* of this Church, in Doctrine, worship, discipline and Government, according to the *Word of GOD*, *Confession of Faith*, *Covenants National* and *Solemn League*, upon its old foundations, as Established from the Year 1638. and downward to 1650. And that he restore and Confirme, by his Princely Sanction, the due Priviledges of the Church, granted to her by JESUS CHRIST, her only Head and Supreme, and never assume to himself an Erastian Supremacy over the Church, in Causes Ecclesiastick, or Unbounded Prerogative, in Civils, above Law; but, as the Keeper of both Tables of the Law of God, in a way Competent to Civil Authority, interpose his Power, for the Ejecting out of the Church, the Prelats, the main Instruments of the Church and Nations Miseries: And, from all Administration of the Power and Trust in the State, such Malignant Enemies as have promoted the Ruine thereof: Upon these or the like Termes, We tender our Allegiance to King *William*, and hope to give more pregnant Proof of our Loyalty to his *Majesty*, in Adverse, as well as Prosperous Providences, than they have done or can do, who profess Implicite Subjection to Absolute Authority, so long only as Providence preserves its Grandure.

MAY IT THEREFORE PLEASE YOUR HON. *To take the Premises into Your serious Consideration, and put a Favourable Construction on this our Humble and Earnest Request, which sense of Duty, in desire to Exoner our Consciences, and in Complyance with, and at the Solicitation of the Cries of many Thousands in the Nation, moved and craved,*

We

We take the Confidence to present to Your HON. *In the Hope, that Zeal for GOD and his Church, regard to Justice and Mercy, Care of Your own, as well as the Countries Interest, dutiful Love, Loyalty and Gratitude to King* William, *and even Pity to us, will prevail with Your* Wisdom *to grant it with all convenient Expedition. And Your* Supplicants *shall ever Pray* &c.

FROM what is above hinted, it may appear, that We are not Enemies to *Government*; but, that as we have had Occasion, We have given more Evidences of true Loyalty, than any of our Traducers, and of true Zeal to have this Government fixed, on such a Foundation, as may make it Secure and Stable, and Subjection thereunto to be not only a Duty, but a Comfort. And with the same inviolable Zeal, Affection and Fidelity, since others will not, We cannot forbear to Remonstrate those Grievances, that are as well hateful to GOD, and hurtful to the Government, as Grievous to Us.

First, As to the *Church*, tho' all Honest Subjects have been impatiently expecting the settlement thereof, from the Kings *Declaration*, his Promises at the Acceptance of the Crown, and his Instructions to D. *Hamiltoun*; Yet, to this Day, it is neither Settled, nor Purged, nor Planted, but kept in uncertain suspense what to fear, or what to hope. *Popery* indeed is much suppressed, in a way, wherein much of GOD, and little of Man is to be acknowledged and admired; yet the Ancient Laudable Laws against *Papists*, *Seminary Priests*, *Sayers* and *Hearers of Mass* are not Revived, Reinforced, nor put in Execution, while many of these Idolaters, and Intycers to Idolatry, are connived at, past without punishment, and favourably Intreated, when some of us have apprehend them, and delivered them into Custody. Whence they are much encouraged where they Cohabite in great Numbers, especially in the Sea Coast of *Galloway*, where they may open a Door and free Ingress to the *Irish*, whenever they have a mind to Invade; whereby the Country about, is contiuually Tormented with fears of their Massacres and Murdering Attempts. We can never be freed from the hazard of the Return of Popery, so long as Papists are so much Tolerated, and are bragging of their hopes of getting a *Toleration* established, Suspending and Dispensing with the *Penal Statutes* against them; which will defile the Land with Idolatry, and expose us to the Judgement of GOD. We

We desire also to be thankful, that *Poperies* eldest Daughter, the *Episcopal* Hierarchy, or *Prelacy*, hath got such a knock on the head, that it is abolished by Law, & its return so far *Legally precluded*, that the removal thereof, being one of the *Stipulations & Articles of Compact* with his *Majesty*, at the *Disposal and Acceptance of the Crown*, it cannot be restored without a signal Violation of the Regal Covenant; the native Consequences whereof, may be foreseen to be so dangerous, that we hope, the Kings Wisdom and Justice, will be proof, against all the Insinuations and Perswasions of the Church of *England*, to hazard it; yet it is a very burdensome Grievance, that the settlement of the Church Government, is so long suspended, and the Nation kept in Suspense, not knowing what shall be settled in stead of *Prelacy* abolished; whereby the Land is left to settle in nothing, but to rest and rott in old Crying sins, and new provocations are daylie Multiplied without control; Scandals and Disorders, to the dishonour of GOD, reproach of Religion, stumbling the weak, hardening the perverse, and offending all are not restrained, but much encouraged, and different factions much fomented; while Church Government and Discipline (the only Preservative and restaurative Medicine for such Distempers) is neither established, nor any rule determined, by which it shall be Established, except the *Inclinations of the People*; which are in themselves very variable, and must be ruled by, and not a Rule unto the Institutions of *JESUS CHRIST*: And as they are variable, so they are as Various and diverse, as there are Numbers of Persons or Parties, that prefer their own Humours and Interests to the Supreme Law, the *revealed will of Christ*: Some are for *Erastianisme*; Some for a constant *Moderatorship*; some for a *Superintendency*; some perhaps for *Independency*; some for a *Toleration* of all; some are for a *continuance of the Curates*; either without any Accommodation with them, and secluding them from a share of the Government, but suffering them still to Exercise their Ministry; Or by an Accommodation and Coalition with them in the Government also; some again are for the continuance of *Patronages*, how ever it be. We and many Thousands are against all these things, as being contrary to the Word of GOD, abjured frequently in our *COVENANTS NATIONAL* and *SOLEMN LEAGUE*, condemned in the confession of this, and all other best Reformed Churches; And in the doleful experience of former times, known to be inlets to many wicked inventions, innovations and corruptions in the Church, And in process of time productive of Prelacy again: Which, in the Lords strength, We, and many Thousands, do intend never

never to submit to, tho for our Recusancy, we should suffer the greatest persecution from Men. We are for the Restauration and Reestablishment of this Churches Ancient *Covenanted Reformation*, in its *Doctrine*, *Worship*, *Discipline* and *Government* (according to the *Word of God*, *Confession of Faith*, *Catechisms* Larger and Shorter, National and Solemn *Covenants* and *Acts* of General *Assemblies*) in all its Legall Immunities, Securities and Sanctions, as before the Year 1650. These *Different Inclinations*, cannot be a Rule of Government and order, but of Anarchie and Confusion; Nor can they be determined by a *Lesbian rule*, unconstant and uncertain; But somewhat, to which all must vail and and submit, and which must claim the last Appeal. Tho we might, with as great Confidence as others, Venture the success of our Plea for *Presbyterie*, upon the decision of a Poll and Plurality of Votes, providing (which could not be denied) none be admitted to Vote, but such as are well affected to the Government of King *William* and Queen *Mary*. Yet we cannot subject the determination of that Plea, to any other Rule, than he *Institution of CHRIST*; considering, that either the Lord *JESUS*, who is anointed only King and Head of his Church, and is faithful in all his House, must not have appointed any Government or order thereof at all (which would exceedingly Reflect upon His Wisdom and Faithfullness and the Perfection of his Law) or this Government which he hath appointed, must not be Arbitrary and Ambulatory, indifferently determinable by the will and inclinations of Men, no more than others of His Institutions can be. We plead for no Government, and for nothing in this of Presbyterie, but what we have the Lawes of *CHRIST* in his Word, the Ancient Lawes of the Nation, the Constitutions of the Church, never yet repealed, by any subsequent Authority Ecclesiastick, and the Covenant Engagements of all ranks in the Land, of Indespensible obligation, for. Nor do we plead for any exercise, or extent of this order, further then is necessary for the *purging of the Church*, of every *Antichristian*, or *Erastian* Corruption and Invention, Defection or Schism, Error or Scandal in Officers or Members impartially; And for the Planting of the Church with Godly, able and Faithful Ministers, for the Instruction, conviction conversion, Edification and Consolation of the Members thereof. But now, not only is this Government not established, but even that of Prelacy is not effectually, nor can be aboliished, while the many iniquous Laws against *Presbytery*, and pressing submission to *Prelacy* are not rescinded; And while our *National and Solemn League Covenants* for

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Preſerving and Promoting Reformation, are ſo far forgotten and trampled upon, that the Acts Antiquating and Diſcharging them to be owned, are not only not Abrogated, but ſo far yet obſerved, that it is hardly allowed they ſhould be publickly mentioned: While alſo, the Eccleſiaſtical *Supremacy*, a feather likewiſe of *Antichriſts* wing, and a Blaſphemous and Sacrilegious Encroachment upon Chriſts Prerogatives, and His Kingdoms Priviledges, is not revocked, nor declared void, whereby it ſtands declared by wicked Laws, to be the inherent Right of the Magiſtrate, to Order, Diſpoſe, Alter or Innovate the external Government of the Church, and to plant, or tranſplant Miniſters, and give them Inſtructions, to Regulate them in the Exerciſe of their Function; which, if not Aboliſhed, will not only open a Door to the Introduction of *Prelacy* or *Popery* again: But if the *Proteſtant* Religion be never ſo well Eſtabliſhed, this will in proceſs of time, unhinge all poſſible Settlements thereof. There is nothing more the Intereſt of the Church, than to ſeek that this Mountain in the way of its Reformation, be removed; and all Acts confirming the ſame repealed; and *Indulgences* following therefrom, be declared to be Uſurpations. Another Pillar of *Prelacy*, the conſtant ſupport of it, and ſtop to Reformation, does yet continue, while the burdenſome Bondage of *Patronages* is not removed, whereby the Church is Robbed of the Liberty of chooſing her own Guides intruſted with her greateſt concerns, & the *Great-men* have open acceſs Implicity to impoſe, and Prey upon, and Peſter the Church with Corrupt Teachers: But if all theſe things were Rectified, it is impoſſible the Church can ever be ſettled, or purged, or planted, as long as the Epiſcopal *Curats*, intruded by the Prelats Collation and Patrons Preſentation, contrare to the Inſtitutions of Chriſt, and the Conſtitutions of this Reformed Church, without the Call, and contrare to the Inclinations of the People in many places, but every where the Bane of the Nation, the Scandal of the Church and the cauſe of all our Conſuſions, are continued in the Churches. How can the Church be ſettled, when thoſe that unſettled it continue in the ſame Capacity to oppoſe all Righteous Settlements of Reformation? How can the Church be purged, when the greateſt Corrupters, and the moſt corrupted Members, remain in Power? Either they muſt be looked upon, and Subject themſelves as Members of the *Presbyterian* Church, and then Diſcipline cannot but ſtrike againſt them, in ſuch a meaſure of Severity, as may

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be some way proportioned to the greatness of their Scandal, their Obstinacy, Impenitency, and Continuance in it as long as they could, and the hazard of their Leavening the whole Lump; or they must be looked upon as Pure and Perfect Schismaticks, seting up a distinct Church, and seperate Communion, within a well Constitute National Church, and as such they ought to be Censured and Restrained. How can the Church be planted, when those Plants that the LORD never planted, fill so much of His Vineyard, and continue in so many Paroches, either to serve them with the hungry Husks of Ethick Homilies and Harangues of Moral Vertues, instead of Gospel Holiness (not knowing to Preach the Mystery of the Covenant of Grace, or declare the Counsel of GOD, to the Conversion of Sinners unto CHRIST) or to poyson them with points of *Popery*, *Arminianisme*, *Socinianisme*: Yet many of them do yet Peaceably possess the places they were intruded into; and others dispossessed, are reponed by Force, contrare to the inclinations of the Paroch, and notwithstanding their opposition in some places, as for instance in *Colintown* and in *Peebles*, where great Insolences were committed, affronting the Magistrates, and disturbing the *Presbyterian* Meeting, which have been overlooked; but the least Accession to any Opposition that was made, hath been severely punished, one *Francis Beatie* upon this account being for these many weeks kept in prison, and his *Petitions* for Liberty ejected. This hath discouraged many, and opened their mouths to reflect; That tho this Government be as much admired for Acts of Mercy to Rebells, as the former was for Cruelty, yet wherever any *Presbyterian* can be apprehended in any fault, he must expect the rigour of Severity. We do not justifie illegal Tumults, nor do we approve that people should transgress their Line and Station in endeavours of Reformation, when there is a Magistrate to be applied unto: But as Magistrates ought to interpose their Power for extruding, and easing the people of Intruders; so when they abuse it, to the re inforcing of these intrusions, honnest and zealous people can as hardly be restrained from resisting such Invasions and Impositions against the Laws of *GOD* and Man, as they can be kept from withstanding a violent Invader of their Property, or Intruder on their Heritage. For our part, as we thought it a seasonable duty, to take the opportunity of the *Interregnum*, before the settlement of a Government that we could subject our selves to, for cleansing the *Western Shires* of these *Creatures* (which

was done with all the discretion that the confusions of that time, and the feared shortness of that opportunity could admitt. And whatever clamour they make of their Persecutions, in their Late Printed Account and Information to the Church of *England*, stuft with Lies, we defy them to give an instance of any hurt done by us to any of their Persons or Families, or to charge us with one *Six-pence* worth of their Goods: If any have, let it be proven and punished) which, if others in other places had imitated, in that season, with the like discretion, the Nation might have been much eased, and the Government prevented of a great deal of trouble: So, tho we are not for Persecuting them who were our greatest Persecuters, nor rendering them any evil for their evil, farther than to restrain them from coming back again to Persecute us, and from Intruding, where they have no Right; Yet we are resolved, through Gods Assistance, to endeavour by all approven means, to hold them our now when they are out; And sooner to die, and venture the loss of all things temporal, than to suffer any of them to repossess themselves of the Churches, whence they are thrown out; or any other within our reach, untill after sufficient Evidences of their remorse they shall come in at the door of CHRISTS Appointment. If in this we Offend the Malignants in the *Parliament* or *Council*, we cannot help it, it is not the first time, nor perhaps the last: But for the *Noble & Honoured Patriots* among them, who are well affected to the Cause of *Reformation* the Nations good, and his *Majesties* Honour and Happiness, we are confident they will construct of our ingenuity in good part, as flowing from conscience and Candor. And we are hopeful his Majestie will Compassionat us in this matter, and consider the Case, that it is more for his Honour and Interest, to have respect to the Consciences of so many People, than to the humor and haughtiness of a few debauched Lords and Gentlemen, who delight in these vexations, and who by Custom, as it were, have it for their Element to impose upon poor Peoples Consciences. And we hope his Majesty will think upon the Redressing of this Grievance, of the Continuance of these Episcopal *Curates*, who took notice of this, as one of the Grievances, in his *Declaration*, that he came to relieve the Nation from.

In the next place, as to the *State*, tho we desire to be more abstract from these Administrations that are above our reach; yet it is obvious and Grievous to all that desire the Establishment thereof in Righteous-

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ness and Peace, that the settlement of Church and State both is Retarded and Obstructed, by the frequent Adjournments of Parliaments, in so Critical a Season when the Government is not well settled, the Enemies thereof are prevailing, the Friends thereof are sore discouraged and devided, and the Forces have no Maintenance. If ever there was need of Parliaments, now it must be when the greatest Interests, both of King and People, are in so eminent Hazard: And yet it is more Grievous, that when they Conveen, and have opportunity to Act for the good of the Nation, the settlement of the Church Government, and the Redress of Grievances, the Disputes of divided Factions, about things of lesser Moment, do hinder their Establishing of those things, that all agree are Absolutely necessary. Time might be afterwards spared for many of these Debates, with which the present precious opportunity is wasted, and they might with more Advantage and Facility be Adjusted and Composed afterwards, if once the Establishment of the Church, and the Security of the Nation were provided for, and these things, for which they have his Majesties *Instructions*, were Settled and Enacted: But we fear these Differences are much Fomented by Self-seeking Malignant Incendiaries, who love to Fish in troubled Waters, and to pursue their selfish and sinistrous ends of Undermining the Church, supplanting the King's Interest, and betraying the Countries Liberties, from whom these Disorders and Grievances have proceeded, which are now desired to be Rectified and Redressed, and from whose Influence all these Retardments and Disapointments do flow, which the Nation so much complains of. For as the open and avowed Enemies of the King and Country, owning the late King *James* his Interest (all consisting either of the Popish or Prelatical and Malignant Faction, not so much as one *Presbyterian* being among them) are very many, Insolent and Prevalent; not only in the *Highlands*, but in all the shires of the Kingdom; and no doubt have their Active Agents, Correspondents and Abetters in the Parliament, Council and all the Supreme Judicatories of the Kingdom; so there are far moe secret undermining Enemies, who for the time are not appearing in opposition to the Government, that are as great Enemies to the King and Country, and all Righteous Interests, as any that do most appear, who are now desiring Places, and ingyring themselves into publick Trust, not to serve King *William*, whose Advancement to the Throne

they opposed, with all the Power and Policy they had; nor simply to satisfy their Insatiable Ambition, but to put themselves in better Capacity to serve King *James*, in Retarding all Righteous Establishments, Rending the Parliaments, and Ruining Us all: Yea, however some may account it Policy, it is not only a Grievance, but a Sin dishonouring God, and destructive to the Nation, and a dangerous Politick, threatning hazard to Religion and Liberty and the Government, that many wicked Malignants, Enemies to Reformation, are admitted & imployed in the publick Administrations, as *Officers of State, Members of Council & Parliament*, and other Judicatories and places of Trust; who not only were our cruel Persecuters, and Murderers of our Bretheren, whose Blood cries for Vengence against them; but were the professed and sworn Tools of the late Tyranny, and Instruments of the Nations Slavery, Ministring to King *James*, and cooperating with him in all his Encroachments upon our *Religion, Laws* and *Liberties*, as absolute Vassals of his Despotical Will, under Oaths and Pensionary Obligations to obey without reserve, and to this day, are either evil Counsellours to perswade the King to some degrees of Arbitrariness, or very disaffected to the Government, Counsellers to, Encouragers of, or Connivers at Rebellion against it. It had been worthy Service to the Nation, to have at first exposed these Men in their own Colours, and represented the danger of trusting them, to the King; who being much a Stranger to Men, at his first coming over, might be easily deceived in the choose of such as were to be Imployed; and then it had been easier to keep out, then now to put out of Places: But it is never too late to seek to be Rid of these that were, and are like to be Instruments of our Ruine; whose Exclusion from Trust and Power to play their old Tricks, is necessary for the King's Interest as well as the Kingdoms, which are inseperable. And since the King declared against these evil Counsellours; and on their Crimes and Mal-administrations, founded the Righteousness and Necessity of his Expedition, neither King nor Parliament can justly offend at, or refuse the Nations Demands, to be eased of them, nor find it convenient, that the Betrayers of our Laws, and Robbers of our Priviledges under the last Government, be excluded from all share of Administration in this. We have experience of their Conduct and Administration already, wherein we found nothing but Tyranny, Rapine and Violence, and such Justice and Law as is discovered above;

and

and therefore can never beleive while only *Interest* hath made them change their way, that ever they shall Administer Righteous Judgement. And whatever Confidence others may have, we cannot be without fears, while we are under the power of our old Persecuters. But above all, it is most offensive to God and all Good men, that Murderers of innocent People, without and against all Law, particularly several of these above Named, should not only be Connived at, and past without punishment, but Encouraged and Intertained in Favour and Trust; some of them Discovered and Apprehended as Traitors to the present Government, are notwithstanding overlooked and suffered to escape Justice, and Liberate upon *Bale*, as Major or Lieu. Col. *Balfour*, and Lieu. *Nisbet*; others of them are Members of Parliament, as the *Commissioners* for the Shire of *Nithsdale* and Stewartry of *Anandale*, Sir *Ja: Johnstoun* of *Westerhal*, and *Johnstoun* of *Corehead*, who is notourly known to have of late several times in Caballs with *Jacobines* drunk the late King's Health. Blood is a crying Sin, defiling the Land, which *cannot be cleansed but by the Blood of them that shed it.* We thirst for the Blood of none, nor crave the sheding of any, but of these who are so guilty of Blood, that they are Condemned to the punishment of Murderers, by the Law of God and all Nations, having shed the Blood of War in Peace, without all shaddow of Law. But as for those that Murdered our Bretheren, without all Process, Accusation, Trial, Conviction, Assise or Sentence, as is observed in his *Majesties Declaration for Scotland*, We should not be free of the Guilt of their Impunity, if we did not seek Justice against them. Yet we wonder the less at this, that such Criminalls as were Authorized under the former Government, by Arbitrary orders, tho without Law, to perpetrate their Crimes, are not Punished, when open avowed Traitors, Speakers of Treason, and Rebells against the Prelent Government, taken in overt Acts of *Lese-Majestie*, discovered in Plots and Projects, and Apprehended in Armes against his Majestie, are Indemnified, Connived at, let out of Prisons and Tolerated, and thereby Encouraged and Tempted to go on in their Conspiracies, and return to the same Crimes, when ever they find Opportunity; for they will not ascribe this to his Majesties Clemency, but to the weakness of the Government, that dare not draw its Sword of Justice. In the former Government, there was nothing but Severity against those that in the least Discented from it: In this there is nothing but Mercy to Rebels; *both these are Extremes.*

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In the Third place we cannot but have ſad Reflections upon the bad ſucceſs of the War: Which we think is not ſo much to be imputed to the bad Conduct of thoſe to whom it is intruſted, as to the Wickedneſs and Malignancy of the Army, laying them and the Land open to the danger of the wrath of GOD; while the Abominations of *Swearing*, *Curſing*, *Profaning the Sabbath*, *Whoredom*, *Drunkenneſs*, and all debaucheries (which are ſeverely interdicted by Military Lawes, if they were put in execution) and are ſo abounding among Officers and Souldiers, that the honeſt hearted among them, whom only Conſcience did prompt to engage in the ſervice, are exceedingly diſcouraged, & all the fearers of GOD affrighted, to whom the abounding of, and continuance in theſe ſins is a greater terror, than all the Numbers of Enemies. This is the more to be adverted, that all that acknowledge GOD, are aſtoniſhed with His ſignall and ſtupendous ſtroks, ſo obſervably waſting many Thouſands of the *Engliſh* Army in *Ireland*, within theſe few Moneths paſt for theſe ſame Abominations. But not only are our Armies filled with the Profane end Profligate Skum of Mankind; But to the great Reproach of the Cauſe, wherein Religion is ſo nearly concerned, to the diſhonour of GOD and offence of all the Godly, many Malignant Enemies to Reformation, avowed Adverſaries and Perſecuters of Truth and Godlineſs, are encouraged, imployed and intruſted for the defence of the Intereſt, which, within this ſhort time, they profeſſedly oppoſed, and by many Dreadful *Oaths* were engaged to Suppreſſ. For the old Dragoons, the Late Kings *Lieveguard* and others, after by Executing their old Maſters cruell and Arbitrary Orders, they had enriched themſelves with the ſpoylls of the oppreſſed Country, and imbrewed their hands in the Blood of innocent and Righteous People, when they ſaw the Prince of *Orange* like to prevail, forſook their King and crouded into his *Highneſs* Armies: Not for love to his Cauſe, which with the greateſt keenneſs they contended againſt, as long as they could; But to prevent the juſt Vengance of his Victorious Armes, then threatened. Hence they are yet intertained among the Forces, and there tho they have not occaſion to exert their fury, as formerly; Yet they ceaſe not to expreſs their Malice againſt us, in boaſting that they hope yet to Perſecute us as much as ever; And bragging they are, and ſhall be for Prelacy as long as they Live, not fearing to impugn the Act of Parliament againſt it. It is certainly a Landſin to be witneſſed againſt, as well as a Grievance, that ſuch Enemies

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of Truth and Godlineſs, ſhould be admitted unto, or continued in Power and Truſt in the Army, or imployed and intertained therein. It is dangerous that the Royal Standart ſhould be a Sanctuary to them, whom Divine Juſtice will purſue; And abſurd, that the Army ſhould be polluted, and in danger to be infected with the Contagion of ſuch an unhappy conjunction and unholy Aſſociation. It were more profitable and promiſing like, that the Tears and Cries of the many Widows and Orphans, whom their bloody Sword have beraved of their Husbands and Parents, might prevail with the Juſtice of the Government, to find them out and give them their reward. It were no loſs, but a great advantage to the King and Countrey both, that the Army were throughly purged of thoſe who betray the Intereſt in ſtead of ſerving it, and whoſe carriage declares they are in the intereſt of the Enemy, and were filled up with ſuch as have another principle prompting them to ſerve, than the proſpect of *Pay*, which will make them venture their deareſt Blood in the Cauſe, with Reſolution and Confidence, when thoſe that are purſued with a guilty Conſcience are afraid to look Death and Hell in the face. Hereby, as his Majeſty would be far from all fears of the like Treaſons and Treacheries, in ſome diſcovered already; ſo all Honeſt Men having no other Intereſt or End, but the Glory of God, the Peace and Proſperity of their Country, and the Honour and Happineſs of the King, would be exceedingly Encouraged and Engaged to be Zealous and Reſolute in the Service, when they ſhould know they have none to Aſſociate with, but ſuch as are of Aproven Fidelity and good Affection to the Cauſe. It is yet the more Grievous, that not only ſo many wicked and Treacherous Men are intertained in the Army; but Men of Principle and Conſcience, who are willing and Zealous to ſerve in the Warrs with the utmoſt Fidelity, can find little Encouragement; and ſome are put out of Truſt and Employment in the Army, who had given Good proof of their Zeal, fidelity and courage, by the Malignants procurement, to the end they might be rid of the fears and Iealouſies they had of their oppoſing their ſiniſtrous deſigns: Some there are we acknowledge in ſeveral Regiments and Troups, that are Men of principle, Conſcience, Courage and Honour; but theſe labour under very many Diſcouragements, being very much Maligned by the reſt. Particularly, we cannot but complain of the Treatment of the E. of *Angues's* Regiment, which was ſent to *Dunkeld* (as would ſeem) on deſign by

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some to be betrayed and destroyed; For, being there posted alone in the mouth of the *Highlands*, the whole body of *Canons* Army marched towards them, the very day they came thither, and within three days gave them a *general assault*: where that Regiment was left in the chock, denuded of the succels that my *Lord Cardross* brought them, who were recalled, and denyed the assistance they sought from *Col. Ramsey* lying at *Perth*. After which, getting the honor of that Victory, *by the goodness of GOD*, they were more then ever envyed, by the remaining malice of their old enemies; who, when they durst do no more to destroy them openly, & their Arts failed them to get them destroyed by the *common enemy*, sought by all means *to break* them, or to *blast their Reputation*.

Finally, The *Country* is much languishing in their jealousies, thinking their sufferings cannot be over, as long as not only the instruments of their oppression, their Persecuters are in so much power; but the *Laws and Acts of Parliament*, &c. impowering them, & condemning the *grounds* of former sufferings, are *yet standing unrepealed*. Yea, they complain their *sufferings still continue*, while *Forefaultries* & *Fines* are not redressed; while many are impoverished by loss of *Law Suits*, and *Decreets* past against them, through their *Non appearance in their own defence*, in *times of hazard*, to their persons; while many *Widows* and *Orphans* of those that lost their *Lives in Fields and Scaffolds*, and of those that *died in banishments*, are in great distress, having none to provide for them; and while many are yet *in servitude in forraign Plantations*, whither they were banished & sold as *Slaves*, whoare not yet *partakers of this reviving*, we have got *in our bondage*.

Moreover, *As the unrestrained debaucherie and dissolutenes of Country People is very grievous, occasioned by the want of Church Government and Discipline*; So *the insolence of many Gentlemen, professedly* Jacobins, *owning the Authority of K.* James, *drinking his health, and forcing others to it where they are numerous, impugning the present Authority*, and openly speaking Treason, *is an intollerable Affront to the Government*: For the Honour of which, Zeal for our *GOD*, Loyalty to the *King*, and Love to our *Country*, observing the defficiency of *others that could do it better*, we could not forbear to suggest these complaints; In the hope that such as are not sensible of them, may open their eyes and see their distempers and dangers; And those that are sensible of them, may be moved to represent them to those that are in Authority, to redress and remove them. But whether Men will hear, or not hear; we are confident there is a GOD that ruleth in Jacob, to the ends of the Earth, who will hear the cry of the Humble, in His own time.

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